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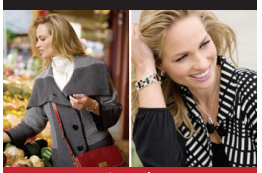
see details on PAGE 33
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Patrick Swayze dead at 57

ENTERTAINMENT Patrick Swayze, the hunky actor who danced his way into viewers' hearts with Dirty Dancing and then broke them with Ghost, died yesterday after a battle with pancreatic cancer.

He was 57.

"Patrick Swayze passed away peacefully today with family at his side after facing the challenges of his illness for the last 20 months," said a statement released last night by his publicist, Annett Wolf. No other details were given.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News on the Move

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Toronto International Film Festival

TIFF

Metro brings you the latest movie news, star interviews and behind-the-scenes events taking place at the Toronto International Film Festival. Look for our special coverage daily throughout the festival.

- Today
- **Georgie Binks dreams of a date with Clooney, pg 10**
- **Oscar winner Tilda Swinton talks about I Am Love, pg 19**
- **TIFF After Dark, pg 24**

On the web

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TIFF **Sparkling**

JOHN R. KENNEDY/FOR METRO TORONTO

Kerry Washington, left, and Naomi Watts sparkle on the red carpet at the Swarovski store on Bloor Street yesterday, where they attended a cocktail party prior to the gala screening of their film Mother And Child at Roy Thomson Hall. **Special TIFF section, pages 19-24.**

Anxious moments

Bomb scare in Scarborough leads to massive evacuation

A poorly parked van rigged with unusual equipment caused a massive evacuation in the city's northeast end yesterday, displacing thousands of people, paralyzing afternoon rush-hour traffic and even prompting police to clear the air space above.

The red cube van had been parked along Eglinton Avenue East, near Centennial College's Ashtonbee campus. In the early afternoon, its owner, a 27-year-old Centennial student, came out to find it gone, not knowing it had been towed to an impound lot. He called police to tell them this was no ordinary van.

"He was worried about the vehicle because it had some type of an alternative fuel engine," said Rosanna Cavallaro, associate vice-president of marketing and communications for Centennial.

That phone call — and the police discovery the van sat near a large propane tank — triggered a five-hour scare that saw police going door-to-door urging people to get out in a 1.6-kilometre radius of the van. Police say as many as 2,500 people were affected by the evacuation order.

Businesses and residences were emptied from an area bordered by Steeles Avenue East to the north, Finch Avenue East to the south, Morningside Avenue to the east and Middlefield Road to the west.

Toronto fire officials looked at what was in the van, how much propane was in the tank, started doing the calculations and came up with the 1.6-kilometre figure.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

No arrest

- The student owner of the cube van was in police custody for much of the afternoon, speaking with police bomb technicians, but was not under arrest, Const. Wendy Drummond said.

Indonesian province OKs stoning for adultery

Lawmakers in a devoutly Muslim Indonesian province voted unanimously yesterday that adulterers could be sentenced to death by stoning, just months after voters overwhelmingly chose to throw conservative Islamic parties out of power.

Only weeks before the new government, led by the moderate Aceh Party, is set to take over, the regional parliament still controlled by hardliners pushed through steep punishments for adultery and homosexuality.

The chairman of the 69-seat house asked if the bill could be passed into law and members answered in unison: "Yes, it can." Some members of the moderate Democrat Party voiced reservations, but none of them voted against the bill.

Human rights groups said the law violates international treaties signed by Indonesia. The province's deputy governor also opposed the legislation, saying it needed more careful consideration because it imposes a new form of capital punishment.

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A Continuing Education Success Story – Although she had been a dentist in the Philippines, Catherine Ortiz discovered that Canadian certification could be difficult and expensive. When she learned that she would only have to complete four courses at George Brown College to become a certified dental assistant, she jumped at the opportunity. "Even though I had to spend the money, I'm glad I had to do it," Catherine says. "The classes prepared me to be successful. I'm now more confident – thanks to George Brown."

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SCANLIFE

Local

Showerheads spew bacteria

Cleanliness may be next to godliness, but when it comes to showers it may also be next to germiness. Researchers at the University of Colorado say showerheads harbour bacteria that can be spewed forth when the water is turned on. One type of bug raising concern is Mycobacterium avium because it can cause a lung infection if inhaled in aerosolized water particles. THE CANADIAN PRESS

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2009 Festival of Media Awards

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Tomorrow's Metro

Metro Drive

What's setting grilling guru Ted Reader's wheels on fire? Metro Drive's Heather Buchan finds out.

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video NDP Leader Jack Layton says Tories' proposed EI reforms a step in the right direction in avoiding fall election at **metronews.ca/canada**

Your Money Allan Small looks at ways investors can protect themselves from inflation as the market recovery continues at **metronews.ca/investing**

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 4 4 0; **Ontario Pick 4:** 5 4 2 3
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A 'day like no other' for students

Student stabbed during district school board's Safe Schools Week

It was a "day like no other" yesterday at Bloor Collegiate Institute after a Grade 11 student was stabbed in the school's parking lot.

School principal Kathy Evans said the stabbing was the first she was aware of at the high school on Bloor Street West at Dufferin Street.

Standing outside the school, Evans confirmed the youth was a student there, but would not comment further.

She said he had been taken to a local hospital and his family and the school's vice-principal were with him yesterday afternoon.

"We believe he is going to be just fine," she said, adding the incident was upsetting.

A second male victim, 17, also suffered injuries.

Evans said a number of witnesses had stepped forward to talk to police about what they had seen.

It's Safe Schools Week at the Toronto District School Board.

Evans confirmed the stabbing had occurred during lunch hour. A series of announcements had been made to advise students about what had happened and a letter was being sent home to parents.

For about two hours, Bloor Collegiate was in secure mode, where all the main doors were closed and no one was allowed to go in or out. Unlike a lockdown, however, students were allowed to move around the school.

Police are looking for a group of four or five males who had knives in their backpacks.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Teacher avoids jail for student relationship

COURT The friendship between teacher and student grew into an infatuation on a European high school trip in March 2006. But Leslie Merlino, then 36, knew she was entering career-ending waters.

By late summer of 2007, the suspended teacher and former student had become lovers. In October 2007, despite a court order, Merlino took her young female lover, then 18, to Quebec City.

Today, Merlino, 39, is living with her mother in London, where she is unemployed with no chance of ever teaching again. But there is nothing to stop her from being with her former student.

Merlino avoided jail yesterday, but was placed on the Ontario sex registry for 20 years and ordered to submit her DNA to the national databank. She received a suspended sentence with a 12-month probation after pleading guilty in a Brampton courtroom to three charges. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Queen's Park opened the fall session of the legislature yesterday. David Caplan, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, was under attack by the opposition.

Queen's Park fires up for fall

POLITICS The Ontario legislature returned with a fiery start yesterday as Premier Dalton McGuinty scrambled to douse opposition pyrotechnics over tax harmonization and spending scandals that have cast a pall on his fall agenda and a Toronto byelection later this week.

Anger over the single sales tax and questionable spending at Ontario agencies that dominated summer headlines took centre stage in the legislature, as both the governing Liberals and opposition parties dug in their heels for a tough fall session.

"He'll get it in the ear, let me tell you."
PC Leader Tim Hudak

Allegations of dirty tricks were hurled both inside and outside the chamber, with Revenue Minister John Wilkinson accusing the Tories of deliberately distorting the issue of tax harmonization ahead of Thursday's vote.

Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak shot back, challenging Wilkinson to get "off his butt" and listen to what voters had to say. "He'll get it in the ear, let me tell you," he said.

The NDP are also campaigning heavily against the merger of Ontario's eight per cent sales tax with the five per cent federal GST, which will increase the cost of many items previously exempt from the provincial levy when it takes effect next July.

THE CANADIAN PRESSS

Park dump policy stinks, say city councillors

STRIKE Toronto councillors who objected to using parks as temporary dump sites during the civic workers' strike want the city to come up with a new policy.

Coun. Sandra Bussin is pushing for a ban on using parks, proposing instead temporary dumps be on city-owned property in commercial or industrial zones. Others say in some cases, mostly suburban neighbourhoods, parks worked just fine.

Geoff Rathbone, the city's general manager for solid waste, said he will take their concerns into consideration, but immediate action is unlikely.

"The other factor is the city is constantly changing and evolving. Part of what we would be looking for is where development has occurred," he said. "In a sense we would not want to do it too early, because we would not be capturing the reality of 2011."

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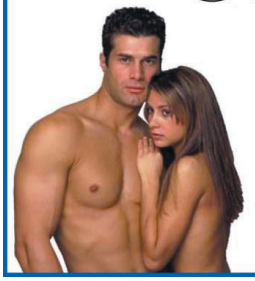

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Council recommends Markham seat filled temporarily

In the wake of Markham councillor Tony Wong's death in June, the town council's general committee is recommending the seat be filled temporarily through an appointment, followed by a by-election to select a new councillor Nov. 23. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

'There's a point where enough is enough'

Ontario ombudsman applauds government's OLG ticket dispensing decision

Barring retailers from buying lottery tickets in their own stores is a good step toward preventing more fraud at the beleaguered Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp., Ontario's ombudsman said yesterday, but critics questioned how the new rules will be monitored.

"We nudged the OLG forward on this issue and I'm pleased to see that the government has stepped in and made the right decision," said ombudsman Andre Marin.

"There's a point where enough is enough. Since 2007 there have been audits after audits, criminal investigations after criminal investigations, arrests after arrests — all types of measures put in place to curb fraud costing conservatively in the tens of millions of dollars."

Marin had been ready to push for a complete ban for retailers if the agency didn't show signs of improvements after a scathing report in 2007.

He now says the latest changes raise hopes that the agency isn't dealing with an "ungovernable lot," and adds prohibiting insiders from buying their own tickets is an inexpensive and practical solution.

Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak dismissed the government agency's move as a preemptive strike by a Liberal government trying to deflect more criticism after what he termed the "summer of scandal."

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Clement denies gay event scrutiny

Industry Minister Tony Clement denied yesterday he directed his department to give any special scrutiny to gay-themed tourism events, and lashed out angrily at opposition suggestions that homophobia motivated government funding decisions.

Clement insisted he did not oust cabinet colleague Diane Ablonczy from the helm of a tourism program after she approved funding for Toronto's gay pride week.

"I know you're looking for the smoking gun or some sort of other agenda but quite frankly, you know, to be accused as I have been accused by (Liberal MP Marlene) Jennings to be some form of homophobe, you know, quite frankly I find that offensive and anyone who knows me knows that that's ridiculous," Clement told reporters.

The Canadian Press reported this week Clement had a direct hand in formally revoking Ablonczy's authority over the Marquee Tourism Events Program, as outlined in a letter his chief of staff sent to bureaucrats last June.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

ASSAULT A 70-year-old man escaped with minor injuries after standing up to a mugger armed with a hammer in the Annex early Sunday morning. Around 5:30 a.m., the senior was at Brunswick and Lowther avenues, just north of Bloor St. W., when a younger man came up from behind. Pulling out a hammer, he demanded cash. When the older man refused, the mugger started hitting him. The victim fought back and the mugger fled, empty-handed, towards the north. The 70-year-old was treated in hospital for his injuries.

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Oshawa boy recovering after crash

A pre-teen boy is expected to live after he was hit by a car while riding his bike Sunday in Oshawa. He suffered head injuries and a shattered arm. No charges will be laid. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tel Aviv film protesters clarify intentions

Artists opposed to a spotlight on Israeli films at the Toronto International Film Festival insisted yesterday they are not calling for a boycott, after drawing the ire of a growing list of celebrity critics.

Filmmakers including Toronto's John Greyson and Palestinian-Israeli director Elia Sulieman were to hold a press conference yesterday to explain their position and reveal messages of solidarity from supporters including historian Howard Zinn, U.K. director Ken Loach and U.S. author Alice Walker.

Organizers say they have collected more than 1,500 signatures to a letter protesting the program, including those of author Naomi Klein, actress Jane Fonda and musician David Byrne.

"The declaration is not a call to boycott TIFF, nor is it a demand to boycott individual Israeli artists." Protest organizers

"The declaration is not a call to boycott TIFF, nor is it a demand to boycott individual Israeli artists," organizers said yesterday in a release.

"It is a statement of principled opposition to the Toronto International Film Festival's decision to honour Tel Aviv with a special spotlight this year."

Tel Aviv is the first city selected as the focus of the festival's "City to City" program, meant to spotlight the films from a particular urban centre.

Protesters say the choice is seen by many Palestinians as taking Israel's side in the Middle East conflict.

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North York sinkhole still remains

TRAFFIC Motorists travelling along Finch Avenue near Dufferin Street will need to get used to the traffic tieups because repairs to the giant sinkhole won't be completed before the middle of next month.

When the road collapsed in late July after a heavy rainstorm, two sinkholes emerged — big enough to swallow a four-storey building or nine Chevy Impalas. Before engineers could even examine the storm sewer pipe, buried 15 metres below the earth, they had to shore up the area to ensure the road would not cave in.

Bid

- The winning bid for repairing the storm sewer was more than $650,000.

"They excavated the pipe about a week and a half ago, but it was so deteriorated," said Myles Currie, director of transportation. "It can't be repaired. It's in too bad shape to salvage."

Instead, workers will build a bypass around the pipe and connect it directly to a reservoir.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Flu adjuvant shows potential: Study

VACCINE A dose of swine flu vaccine that is about a third of the size of a standard dose is protective when boosted with an additive called an adjuvant, Canada's vaccine manufacturer said yesterday.

Results of a clinical trial conducted in Europe by GlaxoSmithKline showed that 98 per cent of adults who received a shot containing 5.25 micrograms of vaccine and the company's AS03 adjuvant showed a spike in antibody levels thought to signal protection after the single dose. Canada has not decided if it will purchase adjuvant's yet.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man shot in scuffle with officer
Hamilton police say a man is in stable condition in hospital after being shot in a scuffle with an officer. The incident took place about 9:30 Sunday night on a railway overpass. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Inflation fixation poses risk: Study

A new study says the Bank of Canada's fixation on inflation to the exclusion of other aspects of the economy poses a risk to the recovery. Economists Arthur Donner and Doug Peters say the central bank should take a wider view of the economy and also seek to maximize employment and growth. The paper was written for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NDP poised to back Tories

New Democrats try to reach out, Conservatives remain distant

The NDP is likely to support the Conservative government in a confidence vote this Friday and avert another federal election — at least for now — party sources told The Canadian Press.

The highly anticipated ways-and-means motion later this week clears the way for a future vote on budget items such as tax credits for home renovation and the working poor.

The Liberals will vote against it after Michael Ignatieff said his party can no longer keep the government afloat. The Bloc Québécois are still uncertain which way they'll go.

But the NDP sent a signal that it will vote to support the Conservative government on a confidence measure for the first time since Prime Minister Stephen Harper formed a government almost four years ago.

While the NDP seemed to be grasping for a Conservative olive branch, it was far from clear the Tories were even extending it.

NDP Leader Jack Layton repeatedly pleaded with Harper yesterday during the Commons' daily question period to work with the opposition parties. Harper flatly ignored him.

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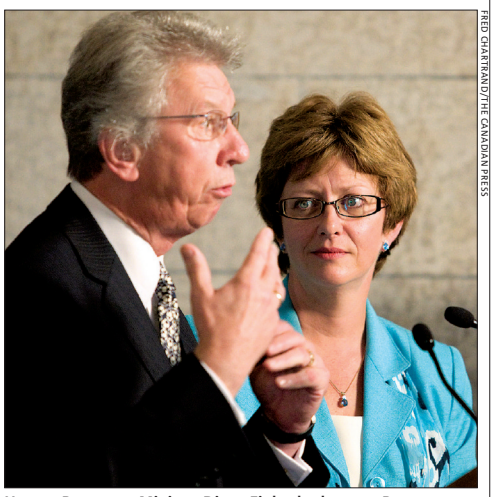

FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Human Resources Minister Diane Finley looks on as Revenue Minister Jean-Pierre Blackburn responds to a question following an EI announcement on Parliament Hill in Ottawa yesterday.

Ignatieff vows to restore Canada on world stage

POLITICS Michael Ignatieff is casting himself as an international statesman who would reassert Canada's role on the world stage as a peacekeeper, honest broker and poverty fighter.

The Liberal leader contrasted his approach to that of Prime Minister Stephen Harper, whom he excoriated for undermining Canada's international stature.

"Under this government, Canada is becoming a country that dares not speak its name," Ignatieff said yesterday in a speech to the Canadian Club in Ottawa.

"Canada is becoming a country that dares not speak its name."
Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff

Liberal strategists see foreign policy as a strength for Ignatieff and a way to counter Conservative ads that the former academic is "just visiting" Canada after working for more than 30 years abroad.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

FLU The NDP has asked Canada's top election official if the country is prepared to go to the polls during a swine flu outbreak. "Campaign activities ... all result in a great deal of contact between members of the public," wrote Judy Wasylycia-Leis, the NDP's health critic.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Queen's MBA

School locked down in London
A London, Ont., high school was locked down yesterday after witnesses reported seeing two men on the property with a handgun. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Astronaut chats with hockey great ... from space

SPORTS TALK Montreal Canadiens legend Jean Beliveau may be Bob Thirsk's hockey idol, but the Canadian astronaut admits he has always been a Boston Bruins fan.

Beliveau was at the Canadian Space Agency near Montreal yesterday for what was billed as a special conversation with Thirsk, who continues to orbit the Earth on the International Space Station.

Thirsk smiled broadly as he floated inside the space station and chatted with the 78-year-old Beliveau while showing off a photo of the Habs superstar in uniform.

Beliveau told Thirsk he felt honoured his hockey photo was part of the astronaut's baggage and that the picture was orbiting the Earth. Thirsk, on the other hand, called Beliveau a great Canadian and said he was "a source of inspiration, not only as an exceptional athlete, but as a man of great valour."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hockey great Jean Beliveau smiles while in conversation with Canadian astronaut Bob Thirsk during a live link-up to the International Space Station at the Canadian Space Agency in Quebec.

Harper to visit Obama

Tomorrow's meeting to last one hour

On the eve of a possible federal election, Prime Minister Stephen Harper will spend an hour this week in the most storied office in the world next to a man who remains wildly popular in Canada — U.S. President Barack Obama.

Harper's visit to Washington will certainly lack the love-in qualities of the president's inaugural trip abroad to Ottawa in February, but sitting down with Obama in the Oval Office for an hour tomorrow is undoubtedly a marquee moment for an embattled leader with yet another election possibly looming.

"It's hardly a pittance," Paul Frazer, a one-time Canadian diplomat who is now a consultant in Washington, said yesterday. Frazer disputed any suggestion that Obama was paying Harper short shrift with the hour-long working visit.

"They talk, they get on the phone with each other — this is 2009, and these are modern men," he said. "The old style of sitting across from each other for hours flanked by delegations is not the style and has not been the style of leaders from Canada and the United States for a long time."

Energy, the economy, security and Afghanistan will likely be the top items of discussion between Harper and Obama.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PM's plans

- While in Washington, Prime Minister Stephen Harper will trek to Capitol Hill Thursday to meet with leading congressional Democrats, including Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid.

Researcher says Greenpeace report on oilsands unfair

ENERGY Some energy industry players say a new Greenpeace-sponsored report uses unfair comparisons in claiming Alberta's oilsands are generating more greenhouse gas emissions than some European countries.

The report, written by business and environmental journalist Andrew Nikiforuk, said that by 2020, Alberta's oilsands will be producing more emissions than countries such as Belgium, Denmark, Ireland and Austria.

David McColl, research director with the Calgary-based Canadian Energy Research Institute, said yesterday the report unfairly compares Canada with those European countries.

"It's an apples to oranges comparison," he said. "We are really an economy that's driven, to a large degree, by the resource sector and by its very nature it's energy-intensive.

"We're also a cold climate so we use a fair bit of energy."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

ZOO Edmonton's Valley Zoo says a veterinarian has ruled that moving the city's lone elephant — which has breathing problems — could threaten its life. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Murders down in U.S.: FBI
Murder and manslaughter dropped almost four per cent last year in the U.S., according to new FBI data. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Canadian's death not 'futile': Commander

The "young, clear eyes" of another Canadian soldier were closed forever Sunday as an improvised explosive device raised Canada's death toll in this bleak and unforgiving land to 130.

Pte. Patrick Lormand, 21, of the 2nd Battalion, Royal 22e Regiment, was killed and four others were wounded in the roadside IED blast 13 kilometres from Kandahar city.

"He did not come here as a potential victim, he came here to help and help he did," said an emotional Brig.-Gen. Jonathan Vance, commander of Canada's Task Force Kandahar.

"He does not need to be told his efforts are futile for he could see positive results in the communities he was protecting," Vance said.

Pte. Patrick Lormand

A column published in several Canadian newspapers from Colin Kenny, the chair of the Senate Committee on National Security and Defence, described the Afghan mission as "futile" and said "It's time to retreat from Canada's Vietnam."

Vance expressed a very different opinion. "You need only look into those young, clear eyes to know that he was a good soul, who tried every day to do the right thing and saw in the results of his efforts a chance to succeed on a wider scale on behalf of Canadians and Afghans alike," said Vance.

Lormand was on a patrol in the Panjwaii district, where Canadian soldiers have been battling the Taliban. The wounded soldiers were treated for minor injuries and released. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Flour giveaway spurs deadly stampede

FAREED KHAN, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A Pakistani woman mourns at a local hospital in Karachi over the death of her relative who died in a stampede.

KARACHI At least 18 women and girls died when a crowd waiting for handouts of flour swelled and panicked in an impoverished city in Pakistan yesterday, officials said.

The stampede in Karachi came during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, a traditional time for charitable acts including giving away food. At times, the giveaways have turned rowdy and dangerous.

The stampede occurred in a small building with narrow passages. As more women entered, some panicked and guards used strong-arm tactics to clear the building, officials and witnesses said.

Karachi police chief Wasim Ahmad said at least 18 women and girls died in the ensuing rush. Mohammad Amin Khan of Karachi Civil Hospital said some of the women had suffocated and that there were at least 20 bodies. Panicked relatives streamed into the hospital, while others held limp bodies in the backs of trucks or in their arms.

The flour giveaway was organized by a private donor who Ahmad said was detained for not giving police prior notice of the event. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bin Laden calls Obama's strategy in Afghanistan 'hopeless' in tape

VIDEO Osama bin Laden said in a new audiotape that U.S. President Barack Obama's strategy in Afghanistan is "hopeless" and called on Americans to resolve the conflict with al-Qaida by ending the war there and breaking the U.S. alliance with Israel.

In the message marking the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the al-Qaida leader avoided his usual rhetoric of jihad and took a more analytical tone, claiming to explain to the U.S. public the root causes of the conflict — which he said were the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But analysts said that the message's tone and unusually short length — 11 minutes — indicated how al-Qaida was struggling to maintain relevance eight years after the attacks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

TERROR PLOT In a case that altered airport security worldwide, three British Muslims were jailed yesterday for at least 30 years each for a plot to blow up transatlantic airliners with liquid explosives. Abdulla Ahmed Ali — the plot's ringleader — was given a minimum of 40 years in prison, one of the longest sentences ever given by a British court. Assad Sarwar, 29, and Tanvir Hussain, 28, were jailed for at least 36 years and 32 years respectively. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment

Attacks threaten to go off the charts

The debate on health care in the United States, hijacked by lame-brained, right-wing radio talk jocks, is comparable to the debate on coalition government here. Level of intelligence? Subterranean.

In the U.S., Barack Obama's enlightened effort to bring health care to 45 million Americans without it is being distorted into a socialist takeover of Washington.

But perhaps we shouldn't chide them too much. Up here, we're running the risk in the coming election, should we listen to the Conservatives, of socialist and separatist hordes taking over Ottawa.

Yep. It's that bad. In every election campaign, it should be said, the bull-shine metre rises. But in the coming one, look out. It threatens to go off the charts. The prime minister alleged the coalition takeover plot in a closed-door speech. His Conservatives, experts at dirtball, have dredged up an out-of-date quote from Michael Ignatieff saying he supports a coalition and are using it in an attack ad.

With their myriad distortions the Conservatives have turned the idea of a coalition into something worse than swine flu. Coalition governments have been common in Europe. Canada had its own coalition government in the First World War and the country didn't fall apart.

We need to bear in mind also that since minority governments are frequent due to our multi-party makeup, coalitions may well be the way of the future in this country. The problem for the Conservatives — and the reason they detest coalitions — is because they have no natural partners to link up with.

No one should wish the Bloc Québécois to be a formal part of any coalition. But the reality is that minority governments will often be reliant on their support for survival.

As was revealed in a letter to the Governor General released by the Bloc last year, Stephen Harper, as opposition leader, was prepared to co-operate with the Bloc and the NDP to create an alternative to Paul Martin's Liberal minority if the opportunity presented itself.

Last year, an agreement was reached wherein the Bloc agreed not to bring down a Liberal/NDP coalition for 18 months. Despite his letter to the Governor General, the PM, in high dudgeon, portrayed the arm's-length arrangement as some sort of Armageddon. He scored so high in the court of public opinion with the gambit that no one dares use the c-word again.

It's wild. It's like the demonization of national health care in the U.S. It's Rush Limbaugh come north.

Lawrence Martin is a journalist and author of 10 books who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.

Views

Dreaming of a date with George Clooney

Every year on a sunny September day, I doll myself up in an understated way, head down to Yorkville and accidentally bump into George Clooney at the Second Cup.

Overwhelmed by my wit, depth and unusual looks (so different from the women he dates) George immediately falls for me. We play hide-and-seek in Kensington Market, laugh as we eat butter chicken at my favourite Indian restaurant and, well, the rest is history — or, rather, fantasy. As the Toronto International Film Festival hits town every year I enjoy my "George" fantasy. (He loves that we share the same name.)

It's my secret life with George (what a great movie title!), which I've always thought was mine alone until I headed downtown last week and discovered the entire female population of Toronto (and likely the world) harbours the same fantasy and lurks everywhere trying to fulfil it. For instance, when I walked into my optometrist's office in Yorkville, the receptionist inquired, "Have you seen George Clooney?" My head whipped around. "Why is he out there?"

"No, but I hear he got mobbed eating sushi last night."

Another patient arrived at the desk. "Oh, you mean George." As if she was on a first-name basis with him. No sooner than do I feel like my dirty little secret is everyone else's, too, when a sales clerk informs me a busload of women has swarmed through her store and onto the streets looking for a man with a bandaged hand, which Clooney is apparently sporting.

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

Women tell me they love everything about him, from his puppy dog eyes to the fact he doesn't take himself too seriously. I think there's also that feeling that nabbing George, the über single man, would be an achievement far surpassing being prime minister, winning the lottery or, for me, finding a product that would give my hair volume.

One woman tells me, "I love George because he dates everyone — it doesn't matter what age."

"He's dating women our age now?"

"No — but every other age."

Which brings me back to reality — that with the passage of time my daughter, 22, is now old enough or young enough to date George. This unfortunate (for me) scenario now has me as George's mother-in-law and serving him mashed potatoes.

Wait. My new fantasy is George reads this with his morning coffee and picks up the phone ...

Georgie Binks is a Toronto freelance writer who writes about gender and relationships; georgiebinks@rogers.com

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Hong Kong group to pay $15 million for Anterra shares

Anterra Energy said yesterday that Hong Kong-based Alliance Success Holding Group will pay up to $15 million for the resource company's class A shares by the end of the year. The two-stage deal is still subject to regulatory and shareholder approval. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Sold! Nortel's assets go to chief rival

In a deal worth close to $1 billion, Nortel Networks announced yesterday that American rival Avaya Inc. was the successful bidder for its Enterprise Solutions division in a sale that could mean significant job losses in Canada.

The sale is expected to close in December.

New Jersey-based Avaya has agreed to pay more than $900 million US — nearly twice its initial bid — for one of the few remaining major assets of a company that had been once the flagship of Canada's high-tech industry.

In addition to Nortel's enterprise — or corporate — business, Avaya will get shares in its Government Solutions and DiamondWare businesses.

Under the terms of the agreement, which is still subject to Canadian and U.S. court approvals, Avaya will put up an additional $15 million US for a program designed to keep key Nortel employees on board. Nortel refused to say how many employees would be affected.

The company attempted to allay angst over large-scale job losses by saying Avaya would employ a minimum of 75 per cent of Enterprise Solutions employees globally. That includes the full Nortel Government Solutions workforce as well as most of those working in countries where laws require employment to transfer automatically to a business purchaser. Canada has no such rules, leaving employees vulnerable.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Background

- Nortel's enterprise unit, which supplies landline phone systems and communications equipment, had $2.4 billion US in revenues in 2008 — roughly one-quarter of Nortel's overall revenue last year.
- Avaya, which was spun off from Lucent Technologies in 2000, is one of Nortel's chief rivals in the office-communications market.

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Lakeside firm on buying ex-Stelco

STEEL Lakeside Steel is determined to bring U.S. Steel's Canadian assets back into the hands of a homegrown company — namely its own, the steel producer said after the annual meeting yesterday.

The Welland-based company has been granted intervenor status in a federal case that is examining if the American steel giant neglected employment and production promises it made when it bought the former Stelco Inc. in 2006 for more than $1 billion. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inmet says talks over stake done

MINING Inmet Mining Corp. said yesterday strategic discussions that would have seen an unnamed party take a minority stake in the company have been terminated.

The Toronto-based metals miner said it was in discussions with Korea Resources Corp. and another party concerning a potential transaction.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mining CEOs' pay rises, bonuses fall

EARNINGS Salaries for mining company CEOs rose by nine per cent in 2009, despite an industry slowdown during the global recession, but cash bonuses fell by 18 per cent, a new report shows.

The average annual base pay for Canadian CEOs this year rose to $484,000 compared to $443,000 in 2008, said the survey released yesterday by Coopers Consulting Ltd. and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Battle over TV fees ramps up

CAMPAIGN Canada's big TV stations are banding together to get public support for proposed fees they say would bolster local programming. Dubbing the appeal "Local TV Matters," CTV, A, Global and CBC say they want to counter what they say is "misinformation cable and satellite companies are telling their customers."

In its submission to the CRTC, the CBC said the economic model for conventional television is broken.

The broadcasters launched the campaign as cable company Rogers Communications argued against the fee in its submission to the CRTC, calling it "an unnecessary bailout for over-the-air broadcasters and an unfair tax on cable and satellite television subscribers." The CRTC will hold a hearing on the matter in November.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Magna International executives Donald Walker, left, and James Tobin announce details of their offer to acquire a 55 per cent interest in Opel during a press conference in Aurora yesterday.

Magna puts up Opel firewall

AUTOS Magna International will keep a complete separation between its parts business and its stake in the Opel auto assembly business to appease customers' worries about technology sharing, Magna's co-CEO said yesterday.

A consortium formed by the Canadian auto parts giant and Russian lender Sberbank was picked last week by both Opel and its owner, General Motors, as the preferred candidate to take a majority stake in GM's main European unit.

Since then, Magna co-chief executive Don Walker said the Ontario-based auto parts supplier has been fielding questions from its customers about what the deal means for them, considering Magna will be part owner of their competitor.

Walker said Magna will meet with all its customers to reassure them that the company will put "a clean firewall in place" between its parts business and Opel, and employees will not be shared between the two businesses.

Magna's other co-CEO, Siegfried Wolf, said in Frankfurt yesterday that as many as 10,500 Opel jobs in Europe could be cut once the transaction is complete — with nearly half of them in Germany.

Wolf said part of his company's plan for Opel envisions about 4,500 possible job cuts in Germany, where the unit is based.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Opel vehicles

- Opel will be restricted from selling vehicles in the Canadian market until at least the fourth quarter of 2012 while GM completes its restructuring process. After that, there are "no definitive plans" to sell — or build — Opels in Canada.

Quebec company reverses loss

Software company 20-20 Technologies Inc. said yesterday it earned $1 million US, reversing a loss of $1.6 million a year earlier. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rogers boosts wireless speed

Rogers Wireless says it has rolled out an even faster wireless data network in Toronto, Vancouver, Calgary, Ottawa and Montreal for mobile Internet users on laptops and netbooks.

Rogers said yesterday it has tripled the current download speeds of its network, which will deliver mobile Internet with speeds as fast as a home or office Internet experience.

"You can take it anywhere you go and you will experience data rates which will allow you to do the things that you normally do while you are tethered," said Bob Berner, Rogers chief technology officer.

Rogers says the HSPA-plus network will be rolled out nationally by the end of 2010. Berner noted if consumers are using the company's new mobile service, but aren't in an area where the fastest service is provided, they will get the "best service available."

Rogers said tests of the new network showed speeds of about 15 to 16 megabits per second, which it says are typical download speeds a consumer would experience.

Technology analyst Duncan Stewart said there are 12 HSPA-plus networks running globally in places such as Europe, Asia and South America. "Compared to some of these other announcements, which have been pretty limited, this would be one of the, certainly geographically, largest launches," he said.

Berner said the faster network isn't for mobile phones at this time and the handsets of these devices and their batteries will have to be adapted to them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Equivalent

- The network speed of a maximum of 21 megabits per second would give consumers the equivalent experience of being on their desktop PC, Rogers chief technology officer Bob Berner said from Toronto after a demonstration of the network speed.

In brief

RESULTS Drugmaker Patheon produced "disappointing" third-quarter results yesterday as revenues plunged 15.7 per cent from a slowdown at the company's Puerto Rico operations and drug development services and U.S. dollar currency losses. The Toronto-based company, which had been at the centre of a takeover battle, said it lost $6 million US or 10.6 cents a share for the fiscal third quarter ended July 31. That was down from a loss of $14 million in the year-earlier period.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Obama to Wall Street: No more bailouts

U.S. President Barack Obama sternly warned Wall Street yesterday against returning to the sort of reckless and unchecked behaviour that threatened America with a second Great Depression.

Barack Obama

Even as he noted the U.S. economy and financial system were pulling out of a downward spiral, Obama warned financial titans on the first anniversary of the Lehman Brothers collapse that they could not count on any more bailouts.

He credited his administration and the $787-billion stimulus package rammed through Congress for pulling the country back from the brink.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Financial call for help

AlisonOnMoney
Alison Griffiths
metronews.ca/alisononmoney

The first call for financial help came three weeks into our daughter's first semester at university. She'd lost her meal card on a Friday night and the office was closed until Monday. No card equalled no food.

Few parents of first-year students will get to the holidays without a supplicating call, text or email. Weekend gatherings, lonely hours racking up the cellphone minutes and all the grab 'n goes en route to classes put a dent in the student budget.

The semester has started but it isn't too late to put a plan in place to keep students on track financially. You don't want to be over involved or, God forbid, interfering, and you do want your children to learn from their mistakes. But, especially for students without a track record handling money, the surest route to independence is by placing a gentle financial hand on their shoulders.

Financial independence developed now will pay off with a better ability to handle the inevitable education debt upon graduation.

As many as 70 per cent of students starting first year in 2009 will have student loan debt upon graduation and those pursuing four-year programs will average $25,000 or more — and that doesn't include student lines of credit or money borrowed by parents. So it only makes sense to start students off with some financial dollars and sense.

If you haven't done so already, make sure there are two bank accounts in place with lump sums being deposited in the savings account and an automatic twice monthly transfer into chequing for living expenses.

I recommend the accounts be joint with a parent with both having online access. Aside from just keeping an eye on things for the first year, a joint account makes deposits and transfers much easier.

Students should pay their own cellphone bills, even if the money is coming from mom and dad. There's nothing like seeing and paying for the cost of going over minutes to rein in the chat.

There will be calls for financial help and a bailout now and then is OK. Just be prepared to draw the line if the outstretched hand becomes a permanent fixture.

Alison Griffiths is a financial journalist, author and host of Maxed Out on the W Network. Write to her at alison@alisongriffiths.ca.

Alison's Money Rule:

• Ease college and university students into independence by placing a gentle financial hand on their shoulders.

On the web

Money Matters:

• Henry Choo Chong warns homeowners to check if the job qualifies for the Home Renovation Tax Credit. Visit metronews.ca/moneymatters to read his column.

Investing:

• Allan Small discusses how the market is chugging along, led by gold and other commodities and why it's good to look at the infrastructure sector. Visit metronews.ca/investing.

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AU student Magdalena in Burlington, Ontario, Canada

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Money-saving tip
Need to buy a gift for someone? Homemade gifts like scrapbooks, baked goods or picture frames save money and add a personal touch money can't buy. NEWS CANADA

Student ¢ents

Be frugal
Select small splurges. Instead of buying the latest designer handbag, consider a purse-shaped Post-it note dispenser for under $15.
NEWS CANADA

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Avoid the debt trap

ERIC EMIN WOOD
for Metro Canada

Post-secondary education is hard enough without creditors getting involved.

So how can students — who in many cases are dealing with tuition fees, government loans, living expenses and one or more part-time jobs, in addition to classes — avoid the debt trap that has snared so many of their peers?

Whether avoiding debt or climbing out of it, the strategies are the same, says Julie Jaggernath, director of education at the Credit Counselling Society of Canada. "Cut expenses, find a job, and pay things off," she says.

"Sometimes it's better to pay to get out of a contract because, at the end of the day, it's going to cost you more if you carry it for the next two or three years."
Elena Jara of Credit Canada

Many students spend their money on small "discretionary expenses" such as food, she says, not realizing how it adds up.

Jaggernath advises making a budget. "Lay out your financial plan just as you would your schedule," she says. "How much money do you have until the end of the term? Divide that by month, divide that by week, then keep it in a holding account and pay yourself like a business."

Elena Jara, credit education co-ordinator with Credit Canada, advises students to avoid long-term contracts, including cellphone plans and car leases, because they never know where they will be in a year.

"Before you sign any contract, read it, and if you don't understand it, do not sign," she says.

If you are roped in, she says, "sometimes it's better to pay to get out of a contract because, at the end of the day, it's going to cost you more if you carry it for the next two or three years."

Not surprisingly, Jaggernath and Jara both recommend credit counselling to those already in debt — though most schools have academic advisers and a financial aid department, Jaggernath says, and she encourages students to "use and abuse" them.

"Those folks on campus are an amazing resource," she says, "and they would rather help ahead of time than have to find a crisis loan at the last minute."

Jaggernath admits some money should be set aside for fun. "A coffee a week had better not kill you," she says.

That said, students "need to take a look at their lifestyle and say, 'You know what? I'm working for my long-term good, not my immediate gratification.'"

Visit creditcounsellingcanada.ca/member_agencies to find a non-profit credit counselling agency near you.

You should set aside some money for fun, such as going out for a coffee with friends once a week, credit experts advise.

Knowing your credit history key when applying for financing

There are a number of steps involved in acquiring financing. As a routine part of the application process, the lender will order a copy of your credit score.

Your personal credit score is compiled by credit bureaus who collect information from various sources, including banks, retailers and other public records, creating a credit report. Information such as: What credit and debit cards you have, the types of accounts you have at various financial institutions, information about personal loans (such as student loans), are all part of the report.

Generally, credit reports show information going back six to seven years.

The credit bureau does not rate you — it merely provides information on your credit history. The lender will examine the credit report to aid in determining whether to lend you money. If the lender has any concerns about something on the report, the lender may ask you for an explanation.

The lender will also use the report to verify other information on your financing application, for example, information about your employment status, your address (including the name of your landlord and perhaps rental payment history), and so on. The credit report will also indicate inquiries made by other creditors over the period of the report.

By getting a copy of your credit report before you apply for financing, you may be able to avoid surprises and possible delays that may occur in having to answer questions about your credit report. Because the report contains information about you, you have a right to inspect a copy of it. NEWS CANADA

How to improve your score

Here are a few tips to improve your credit score:

- Apply and open new credit accounts only as necessary.
- Pay off debt rather than moving it around.
- Get copies of your credit report and review to make sure they are accurate.
- Understand how your credit score is determined.

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Players agree to donate brains

Three active NFL players are joining former players in agreeing to donate their brains after death to a Boston University medical school program that studies sports brain injuries. Researchers will study the players' brains and spinal cord tissue to better understand the effects of concussions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports

Urlacher out for season

Chicago Bears linebacker Brian Urlacher, left, will miss the rest of the season after undergoing surgery to repair his dislocated right wrist — a major blow for a team with high expectations. The 10-year veteran apparently was injured in the first quarter of Sunday's 21-15 loss at Green Bay making a tackle on Packers running back Ryan Grant. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

Stajan not concerned about vacant Toronto captaincy

DANIEL SQUIZZATO
for Metro Toronto

HOCKEY A lot has changed since May 4, 2004, the last time the Maple Leafs were in the playoffs.

Since then, the NHL has endured a year-long lockout, added a salary cap and adjusted its on-ice rules. As for the Leafs, they've had three different general managers, three different head coaches and a revolving door roster.

Matt Stajan

But for one of the few remaining Leafs from that 2004 playoff team, one thing has stayed the same: A focus on doing what's needed to help the team win.

"I go out there, play hard, and try and score every shift," says centre Matt Stajan. "It's the mentality I've had since I started playing hockey."

That attitude has helped Stajan grow into his role as one of the dressing room leaders.

"It's just the person you are," says Stajan, 25. "On our team there's a lot of guys with leadership skills, and everyone has to use them and speak up."

Despite being one of the team's longest-serving players, Stajan doesn't want to speculate about the possibility that he could fill the role of team captain.

"I don't even worry about that stuff," he says. "You can just go out there and be a leader even without having a letter on your shirt."

Even without anyone wearing the C, Stajan, recently dubbed a "top-six forward" by Toronto general manager Brian Burke, says there is plenty to look forward to as he enters his sixth full season with the Leafs.

"There's a lot of excitement around the rink and in our dressing room," he says. "All the new guys are great guys. We've all really gelled together here early in training camp."

He adds that with Burke and head coach Ron Wilson in place, things appear to be more stable in the organization going forward.

So, can Leafs Nation begin planning the parade route?

"Our goal as a team is to make the playoffs," says Stajan. "It's up to us players now to go out there and perform and put it all together and get us back where this team belongs."

Sports in brief

CANADIAN GP The stage is set for Formula One's return to Montreal next year. Grand Prix F1 du Canada Inc., and F1's governing body yesterday reached a settlement in their financial dispute. An announcement that Montreal is back on the F1 schedule is reportedly "forthcoming."

CHARGED Famed amputee runner Oscar Pistorius has been charged with assaulting a 19-year-old woman at a party he hosted. Pistorius was reportedly arrested Saturday after he tried to intervene in a lover's tiff. The woman had been fighting with her boyfriend outside the house. The South African Press Association reports she later began kicking Pistorius's front door. Pistorius reportedly opened the door to tell her to stop and when he closed it, the woman was hit on the leg.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

It's Called Football talks grass at BMO with an insider, watch at:
metronews.ca/blogs

Stunning upset

No. 6 del Potro shocks Federer to win U.S. Open

Normally so cool, so consistent, so in control of his emotions and his matches, Roger Federer let the U.S. Open championship slip from his grasp.

Two points from victory against inexperienced, unheralded Juan Martin del Potro of Argentina, two points from a sixth consecutive title at Flushing Meadows and a record-extending 16th Grand Slam overall, Federer, quite simply, fell apart yesterday.

He railed at the chair umpire. His legs grew weary. His double-faults mounted. He could not figure out a way to stop the 6-foot-6 del Potro from pounding forehand after forehand past him. In a result as surprising for who lost as how it happened, the sixth-seeded del Potro came back to win his first Grand Slam title by upsetting the No. 1-seeded Federer 3-6, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

"Can't have them all," Federer said.

He had won 40 consecutive matches at Flushing Meadows. He had won 33 of his previous 34 Grand Slam matches. And he has made the final at 17 of the past 18 Grand Slam tournaments, 21 overall.

Del Potro? This was the 20-year-old's first Grand Slam final, and he was 0-6 against Federer until now. But after handing Rafael Nadal the most lopsided loss of his Grand Slam career in the semifinals Sunday, del Potro came back the next day and rattled Federer.

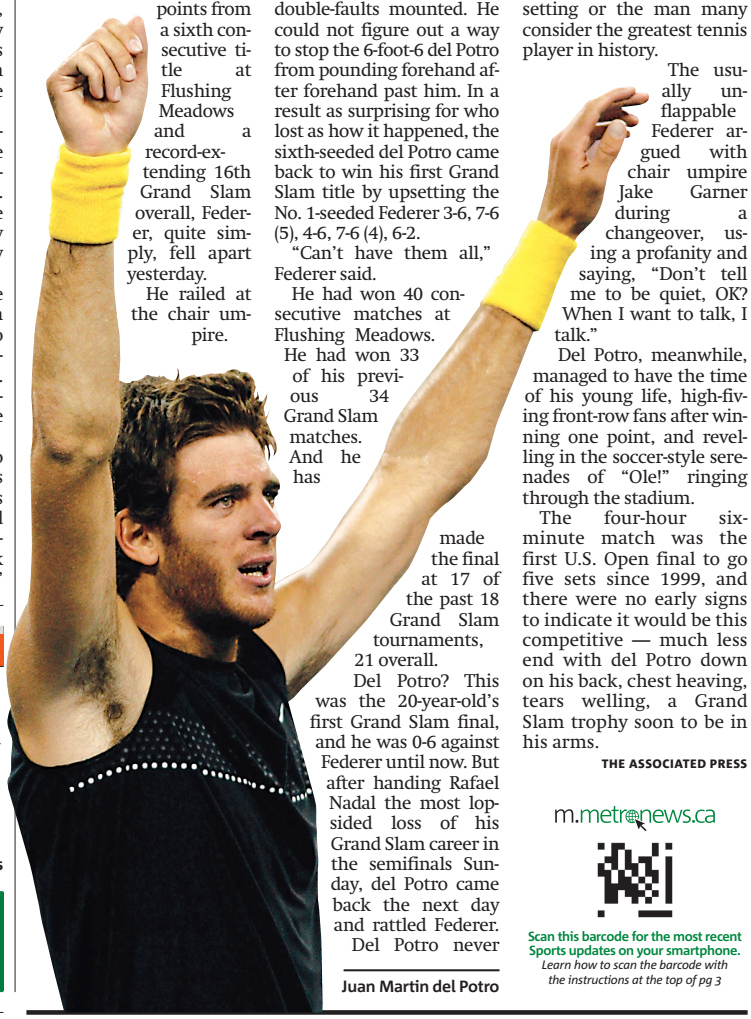
Del Potro never seemed intimidated by the setting or the man many consider the greatest tennis player in history.

The usually unflappable Federer argued with chair umpire Jake Garner during a changeover, using a profanity and saying, "Don't tell me to be quiet, OK? When I want to talk, I talk."

Del Potro, meanwhile, managed to have the time of his young life, high-fiving front-row fans after winning one point, and revelling in the soccer-style serenades of "Ole!" ringing through the stadium.

The four-hour six-minute match was the first U.S. Open final to go five sets since 1999, and there were no early signs to indicate it would be this competitive — much less end with del Potro down on his back, chest heaving, tears welling, a Grand Slam trophy soon to be in his arms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Juan Martin del Potro

Clijsters moves into top 20

- Kim Clijsters moved into the top 20 in the women's rankings yesterday, one day after winning the U.S. Open in her comeback.

The 26-year-old moved into 19th in the WTA rankings. She had been unranked following her 2½-year retirement.

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Patriots rally, beat Bills late

NFL RESULTS

Buffalo 24 **New England** 25

FOOTBALL Tom Brady threw two touchdown passes in a 1:16 span late in the fourth quarter, rallying the New England Patriots past the Buffalo Bills 25-24 in the star quarterback's regular-season return.

Brady hardly was dominant until the final minutes last night, when he hit Benjamin Watson for an 18-yard touchdown to make it 24-19. Buffalo's Leodis McKelvin surprisingly took the ensuing kickoff out of the end zone, and fumbled at the Bills 31, with kicker Stephen Gostkowski recovering.

Then Brady, who missed all but the first quarter of last year's opener with a knee injury, found Watson in the end zone to win it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays falter in 9th, lose to Tigers

MLB RESULT

Toronto 5 **Detroit** 6 (10 ings)

BASEBALL Marco Scutaro's second error of the game allowed Brandon Inge to score from second base in the bottom of the 10th inning, and the Detroit Tigers rallied to beat the Toronto Blue Jays 6-5 last night.

Pinch-hitter Aubrey Huff belted a tying three-run homer in the ninth and Ryan Raburn also went deep for the American League Central-leading Tigers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metro Workology exclusive: Skilled Trades
For the month of September, Metro's Workology section will be focusing on the extremely lucrative and soon to be booming employment sector of skilled trades. So be sure to read Workology and Metronews.ca/work every day.

Workology

Ground broken for Rotman

The University of Toronto held a groundbreaking ceremony last Wednesday for a new Rotman School of Management building, which will allow the continued expansion of the school's programs, research centres, and faculty. The building, slated to open in 2011, will feature a multi-storey foyer with a grand central staircase, a 400-seat event space, green roofs, and a heritage building to be incorporated into the new structure. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Brooks Brothers hits Canada

Iconic American brand expands its worldwide style empire north of the 49

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Despite the tough economy, iconic American clothing brand Brooks Brothers is expanding into Canada and betting that classic elegance has long-term potential.

The brand of choice for a majority of American presidents and many Hollywood stars was founded 192 years ago in New York City and pioneered products like the button-down shirt and even the ready-to-wear suit as we know it.

While Brooks Brothers has expanded to 210 stores in the U.S. and about 70 around the world today, the company only recently decided to finally enter the Canadian market, having opened its first store in Vancouver in May and its second in Toronto recently at the end of August. A third store is already planned for Calgary in 2010 and Brooks Brothers CEO Claudio Del Vecchio anticipates room for roughly a dozen stores eventually throughout Canada.

The expansion comes at a time when the Canadian economy is still struggling to recover but Del Vecchio says he's not concerned about short-term outlooks since the nearly two-centuries-old brand prides itself on a long-term strategy.

"We believe the economy is going to recover eventually. We actually started talking and looking for store locations before the economy took a dive. We decided not to stop the process even if the economy slowed down, because it's going to be a long-term investment anyhow," Del Vecchio said.

Del Vecchio believes the company's role as its own middleman will give it a competitive advantage in the market to allow Brooks Brothers to go toe-to-toe with established Canadian brands like Harry Rosen.

"The fact that we are maker and merchant is very important to us. Somebody like Harry Rosen, although he might have a little more selection, is buying from somebody like us, from the maker, so from a value standpoint we have an advantage there," he said.

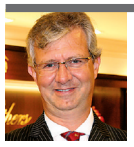
U.S. president Barack Obama wore a black cashmere coat and burgundy scarf from Brooks Brothers for his inauguration and the brand also provides the attire for characters on television shows like Mad Men and Gossip Girl.

The popularity of the retro-drama Mad Men has raised the mainstream profile of Brooks Brothers and re-introduced many men to the importance of a stylish suit.

"Mad Men seems to create a lot of talk — it's about nice, clean, sharp-looking suits. I think there is a return to that. Style can change a little bit but Mad Men as a show is just reminding people that the way you dress is part of your personality. It does make the man," Del Vecchio said.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Brooks Brothers CEO Claudio Del Vecchio at the opening of their Toronto store in late August.



"We actually started talking and looking for store locations before the economy took a dive. We decided not to stop the process ... because it's going to be a long-term investment anyhow."
Brooks Brothers CEO Claudio Del Vecchio

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The Yonge Street Mission
The Yonge Street Mission is a faith-based, not-for-profit organization that helps people living in economic, social and spiritual poverty in Toronto. YSM.CA

Double Take: Used clothing, new lives

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Double Take isn't just a second-hand store — it's a place for second chances.

Located at the junction of Toronto's Regent Park and Cabbagetown neighbourhoods (310 Gerrard St. East), the store is a beacon of hope in the community providing jobs, affordable goods and a fresh start for people who often have nowhere left to go.

Operated by the Yonge Street Mission charity organization, Double Take employs and provides training for more than 20 community residents, many of them people who couldn't have gotten a job anywhere else because of language, cultural or economic issues.

New staff members begin training as volunteers learning the ropes from current staff and seeing if they can handle a retail environment. Once they get hired, new employees continue to undergo training and make use of the Mission's extensive resources, such as language courses, career counselling and life and social skills classes.

Double Take manager Kathy Webster says being able to work is a big step towards a real career for many people in the community.

"For most of them that come here it's their first job in Canada. They feel like they're part of something," she said.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Kathy Webster is seen here at Double Take, a used clothing store run by the Yonge Street Mission that employs people who would be hard-pressed to find a job otherwise. Webster is also the manager.

"My English wasn't great but they hired me. It was a great start for me and the experience has been very good."
Asma Khatoon

Webster herself started out as a volunteer at Double Take because she always admired what Yonge Street Mission was doing and wanted to help in the community. She says for the vast majority of volunteers and job-seekers who come in through the door, Double Take is an unprecedented opportunity to learn responsibility and valuable, marketable skills for the real world.

"This is a much more forgiving environment than a corporate job would be. We're much more flexible and we really help people get to that point where they can hold down and find employment on their own," Webster said.

Asma Khatoon, a permanent employee at the store who has worked as a supervisor for three years, tried working a factory job when she first came to Canada but lost it when she had to care for her sick daughter. She struggled to find work afterwards because her English skills were not up to par for many employers. Double Take and the Yonge Street Mission gave her a second chance, training her in English, customer service and pricing.

"My English wasn't great but they hired me. It was a great start for me and the experience has been very good," Khatoon said.

For another supervisor, Ranie (she asked that her real name not be used) working for Double Take has been more than a job, it has become a calling.

"I started from scratch and now I enjoy working for a charitable organization. At the end of the day, it's not just about money — you know you are doing something important," Raine said.

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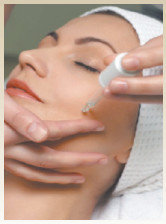
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TIFF Toronto International Film Festival

EDITORS: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA & STEPHANIE BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Michael Caine plays a widowed man in the film Harry Brown.

Brown 'changed me': Caine

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

In the TIFF film Harry Brown, Michael Caine plays a widowed man who strikes back at the hoodlums who have terrorizing his community. It's close to a British take on Gran Torino, but don't suggest to Sir Michael that it's Death Wish U.K.

"It's not like that at all," he said. "It's a complete work on its own. It was made by a young director named Daniel Barber. The first film of his I saw was The Tonto Woman, which got an Academy Award nomination for best short film. I liked it. It was a western and this is kind of like a western. It's Gary Cooper in High Noon."

So you could call it a Teabag Western if you like, but instead of being set on the wide open plain, the action in Harry Brown takes place in the decidedly more urban terrain of the Elephant and Castle section of London, an area Caine knows well.

"I always said I come from the slums," he said of the E&C neighbourhood where he was born, "and I do, but when I went back I didn't realize how lucky I was. Because when we were shooting late at night, I'd talk to the neighbourhood boys, ... I realized was I was quite lucky because I had two thing they didn't have: I had a happy family life and I got an education. So I had two valuable things they didn't have, and one thing they did have that I didn't. That was drugs."

Caine blames drugs for the rise in hoodlum culture that Harry Brown portrays. "In the end," he says, "they wipe out all feeling for the other person."

But despite strong feelings on the subject, Caine believes making Harry Brown taught him something.

"This movie changed me," he said "in as much as I started out thinking, 'Let's go out and make a movie about killing all these scumbags,' and then I met these people and realized they were helpless just as much as the victims and they had been neglected and they need help."

It's been a long time since Caine lived in Elephant and Castle. After six decades of making films, he's a film icon, which, true to his humble roots, is a title he has trouble accepting.

"There's not a special icon bar where you go, meet up and learn what to do," he says. "I just consider myself lucky."

'A particular pleasure'

Oscar-winner Swinton happy to show I Am Love at fest

ANNE BRODIE
for Metro Canada

Tilda Swinton's old friend and co-star George Clooney is in town, but she hasn't seen him yet. The elegant Scottish actress and producer, here with her film I Am Love, says she's making do by sending him rude emails.

He's answering.

Swinton has brought three films to Toronto over the years; this year it's especially meaningful to her because I Am Love is her own project.

"Last year and the year before, I was here with my American friends and I was a guest at their party, and now I'm here with my work," said the Academy Award winner for the film Michael Clayton.

Swinton stars in and produced I Am Love — a tragic love story set at the turn of the millennium in Milan — with longtime friend and collaborator, director Luca Guadagnino.

"For me it's a particular pleasure to bring Luca here. Everyone has heard me talk about my work with him all these years, and now they can see him," says Swinton, who has been enthusiastically promoting her films with personal appearances.

Tilda Swinton stars in and produced the film I Am Love. It screens on Friday at Scotiabank Theatre.

"It's really important. I find it enjoyable, it's contact with the audience; what's not to love?" asks the actress.

"I am in the really fortunate position of really loving my work and I am so grateful to talk to anyone who wants to know my work, because generally speaking, my films are so small that I can imagine people in your position saying, 'Who wants to talk to Tilda Swinton in something about an Italian?' and there's no show of hands.

I Am Love screens at 8:45 a.m. Friday at Scotiabank Theatre.

"And then someone says 'Oh I want to do that! I'd like to!' Then we're already getting people who want to talk to us."

Promoting films aside, it's not like Swinton isn't a film festival fan to begin with. She and a couple of friends have launched their own fest in Scotland — the Ballerina Ballroom Cinema of Dreams Festival.

"It's a vision, it's like Brigadoon.

"We made the festival last August in a disused bingo hall. We are now no longer able to use it for very dull reasons. We have made it a travelling show," says Swinton.

They charge $6 admission, seat audiences on beanbag chairs, and show them whatever films they feel like showing them. They've even had guest programmers, like filmmaker Joel Coen, to help run the mobile theatre.

"The aim is that no one expects it. If people expect us to do something extraordinary we go out of our way not to. It's our non-existent festival."

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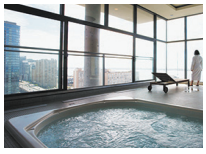

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HELLO! on the red carpet

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GEORGE PIMENTEL PHOTO

Talk show queen Oprah Winfrey gives a shout out to her "precious" fans gathered behind the ropes at Roy Thomson Hall on Sunday.

Domestic drama Pippa Lee insightful

The Private Lives Of Pippa Lee

●●●½

REVIEW Rebecca Miller wrote and directed this quirky domestic drama based on her own novel, and fills it with heavy-hitters Robin Wright Penn, Julianne Moore, Keanu Reeves, Alan Arkin, Blake Lively, Maria Bello, Winona Ryder and Monica Bellucci.

Miller weaves a dense tapestry that pulls together disparate chapters in Pippa's life to discover how things got the way they are.

Even as Pippa welcomes a new "easy" life in the retirement community with her much older and ailing husband, embracing servitude and mindless perfectionism, her old foe anxiety threatens to blow it all up.

Miller deftly navigates a complex web of people and events with considerable charm, imagination and insight.

Anne Brodie/Metro Canada

Keanu Reeves and Robin Wright Penn star in The Private Lives of Pippa Lee, which screens today.

Crackie

●●●

REVIEW Crackie is a gritty drama about a young girl from a small town who dreams of bettering herself.

It's a universal story, this time around set in Conception Bay, N.L. Director Sherry White has put together a harrowing portrait of troubled home life buoyed by strong performances from This Hour Has 22 Minutes vet Mary Walsh and newcomer Meghan Greeley.

It's an uncompromising look at three generations of dysfunction that even at it's most grim offers a glimmer of hope.

Richard Crouse/Metro Canada

Reel Injun

●●●

REVIEW Weaving together interviews and clips from 100 years of on-screen Native life, Cree filmmaker Neil Diamond presents an engrossing portrait of how popular culture has shaped the world's perception of First Nations people. Archival footage abounds but it is the firsthand stories from native activists and celebrities like Sacheen Littlefeather and Adam Beach that really flesh out the story. Think of it as The Celluloid Closet for the Native community and you get the idea.

Richard Crouse/Metro Canada

Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans

●●●●

REVIEW German arthouse eccentric Werner Herzog gives Nicolas Cage his best role since Wild at Heart in this gloriously unhinged, in-name only remake of the Abel Ferrara/Harvey Keitel cop shocker. Cage plays a hunched, strung-out Louisiana lieutenant who has his twitchy fingers in all manner of dirty pies. A remarkably deranged, blackly comic trip into lunacy that's not for all tastes.

Chris Alexander/Metro Canada

English reimaginings of French films popular with audiences

InFocus

The most successful English language remake of a French film is Three Men and a Baby, a 1987 comedy that raked in $167,780,960 at the box office. In today's dollars, that would be ... well, a lot of money. The least profitable remake is the Peter Falk film Happy New Year, a reworking of the 1973 movie La bonne année, which brought in a paltry $41,232. The new Atom Egoyan film Chloe, a reimagining of Gérard Depardieu's Nathalie that debuts at this year's Toronto International Film Festival, is likely hoping to fall somewhere comfortably between the two.

English remakes of popular French films have proven popular with North American audiences, but Encore Hollywood author Lucy Mazdon wonders whether the remake "can be considered as a positive form of cross-cultural exchange or if in fact it threatens the identity of the originals." Chloe's mix of homage to the original plus Egoyan's signature style ensures that it strides the line between original work and respectful remake, but not all French adaptations have been so successful.

I don't think anyone would argue that Richard Pryor's The Toy, a flaccid early '80s remake of Le jouet, improved on the original, or that Richard Gere in Breathless was anything other than a pale imitation of the effortless cool Jean-Paul Belmondo oozed in À bout de soufflé. Even the addition of authentically French actress Valérie Kaprisky in the role originally played by the iconic Jean Seberg couldn't get this turkey out of second gear.

Not all French to English revisions are budget-bin movies, however. Terry Gilliam took on a recognized classic when he made Twelve Monkeys. The 1962 film La jetée earns a near-perfect score on IMDB and its story of life in a devastated Paris in the aftermath of WWIII is described by one contributor as "experimental, elegiac, profound, beautiful, and mysterious." Those are big shoes to fill, but Gilliam meets the task head on in his Oscar-nominated film. Twelve Monkeys is at once a remake and a completely original work that, as Roger Ebert wrote, creates "a universe that is contained within 130 minutes."

And finally, also worth a rent is True Lies, the James Cameron shoot 'em up, loosely based on Claude Zidi's La totale!, the French comedy about a wife who discovers her husband works for the French secret services.

Cameron upped the flashiness of the story, but the original has many pleasures, including great dialogue and many good gags.

Richard Crouse's Movie Show can be seen every Sunday at 6:30 p.m. on the E! Channel; mrchaos33@hotmail.com.

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Cairo Time party a hit

Mongrel Media president Hussain Amarshi, left, and writer Salman Rushdie.

Cairo Time stars Alexander Siddig and Patricia Clarkson.

Guests and starlets enjoyed all the traditions of an after-screening soiree as cast and crew of **Cairo Time** celebrated their gala night at **the Boiler House**, in **the Distillery District**. **The Mongrel Media** and **Metro-sponsored** event also had party-goers enjoying cocktails on the patio and a Hookah bar.

TIFF after **dark**
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Director Deepa Mehta.

Cairo Time director Ruba Nadda shines at the party.

PHOTO BY ENZA ANDERSON/FOR METRO TORONTO

It's the party-night hump. This is the last big night before the A-listers leave town. What better way to mark 10 nights of reckless endangerment than with a couple of festival party granddaddies?

Things get bad at **Ultra Supper Club** on Queen West. This year-round celebrity hub hosts **Bad Lieutenant** with **Nicolas Cage**. Catch him doing a double-take with a film screening dinner followed by after-party gathering.

Look for partner in crime **Val Kilmer** to walk through the doors. Starts at 10 p.m.

Don't worry if you're shut out of the **InStyle Party** at **the Windsor Arms**, this photog wasn't invited either. No worries though, this festival favourite is the place to be to catch media hounds elbow each other for that exclusive celebrity money shot. The fun starts at 10 p.m.

Finally, things get a little tamer as **Leslie, My Name Is Evil**'s cast members, **Kristen Hager** and **Ryan Robbins**, celebrate their festival premiere at **the Berkeley Church** on Queen Street East. Have fun!

Today's film screenings

ROY THOMSON HALL
60 Simcoe St.

The Private Lives of Pippa Lee (Gala Presentation) 6:30 PM
Micmacs (Micmacs à tire-larigot) (Gala Presentation) 9:30 PM

VISA SCREENING ROOM
Elgin & Winter Garden Theatre Centre, 389 Yonge St..

Chloe 11 AM
Balibo 2:30 PM
The Boys Are Back 6 PM
Baaria (Baarìa) 9 PM

AMC YONGE-DUNDAS
10 Dundas St. E., 4th floor

Collapse 2:15 PM
Good Hair 2:30 PM
A Prophet (Un Prophète) 2:45 PM
Applause 3:15 PM
Snowblind 3:30 PM
Lebanon (Levanone) 3:45 PM
Reel Injun followed by Found 5 PM
Adrift (Choi Voi) 5:15 PM
25 Carat (25 Kilates) 6 PM
Waking Sleeping Beauty 6 PM
Between Two Worlds (Ahasin Wetei) 6:15 PM
Jean Charles 6:45 PM
Hiroshima 7:30 PM
High Life 8:15 PM
The Dirty Saints (Los Santos sucios) 8:30 PM
Google Baby 8:45 PM
Tales From The Golden Age (Amintiri Din Epoca de Aur) 8:45 PM
Eamon 9:15 PM

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The Vintner's Luck 9 AM
The Joneses 9:15 PM
Les Herbes folles (Wild Grass) 9:30 AM
Kirot 10 AM
Enter the Void 12 PM
The Last Days of Emma Blank (De laatste dagen van Emma Blank) 12:15 PM
Carmel 12:30 PM
The Warrior and the Wolf (Lang Zai Ji) 1 PM
Together (Sammen) 3 PM
The Loved Ones 3:30 PM
Capitalism: A Love Story 3:45 PM
The Topp Twins 4 PM
Every Day is a Holiday (Chaque jour est une fête) 5:45 PM
Heiran 6:15 PM
White Material 6:30 PM
Cole 6:45 PM
Bare Essence of Life 8:30 PM
The Angel (Engelen) 8:45 PM
Lourdes 9:15 PM
Crackie followed by Vive la Rose 9:30 PM

ISABEL BADER THEATRE
University of Toronto, Victoria College 93 Charles St. W.

Ahead of Time 4:45 PM
Short Cuts Canada Programme 5 7:15 PM
J'ai tué ma mère (I Killed My Mother) 9:30 PM

JACKMAN HALL
Art Gallery of Ontario, 317 Dundas St. W.

The Day Will Come (Es Kommt der Tag) 9 AM
Joe Dante introduces It's a Gift 12 PM
Short Cuts Canada Programme 4 3 PM
Neil Jordan introduces: Lo sceicco bianco (The White Sheik) 6 PM
La Donation (The Legacy) 9:30 PM

RYERSON THEATRE
Ryerson University, 43 Gerrard St. E.

Soul Kitchen 12 PM
The Informant! 3 PM
Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans 6 PM
Vengeance 9:15 PM
[REC] 2 11:59 PM

VARSITY
Manulife Centre 55 Bloor St. W., 2nd floor

Gigante 5 PM
Vincere 5:30 PM
Shirley Adams 6:15 PM
Jaffa (Kalat Hayam) 7 PM
Men on the Bridge (Köprüdekiler) 8:15 PM
Scheherazade, Tell Me a Story (Ehky Ya Schahrazad) 9 PM
Bena 9:15 PM
Videocracy 10 PM

WINTER GARDEN THEATRE
Elgin & Winter Garden Theatre Centre, 189 Yonge St.

Valhalla Rising 4 PM
Youth in Revolt 8:30 PM

YONGE-DUNDAS SQUARE
1 Dundas St. E.

Monterey Pop 12 PM
Robin Hood 3 PM
Hipsters: Showcase – Swing Dance Lessons / Swing Band 7 PM

Effects of bullying
Adolescents have twice the risk of delusions, hallucinations or other psychotic symptoms if they were bullied between the ages of eight and 10, say researchers. It's critical schools enforce zero-tolerance policies. **BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE**

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EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Red carpet ready

Tips for the ordinary girl to get a TIFF-worthy appearance

SOFI PAPAMARKO
For Metro Canada

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

Celebrities always look gorgeous for a reason.

Yes, many are blessed with high cheekbones and willowy limbs, but if everyone had personal trainers, make-up artists and hair-stylists following us around, we'd all be mega babes.

And with TIFF finally here Toronto is swimming in glamour. We asked beauty experts John Donato (2008 Editorial Stylist winner in the North American Hairstyling Awards) and his artistic director, make-up artist Anna Barseghian, to give us the lowdown on how we ordinary folk can look like we've just wandered off the red carpet.

Those eyes!

For dramatic movie siren eyes, eyeliner is a must. Liquid liner in brown or black is always classic (try Lise Watier's new Metal Ink liquid liner for a long-wearing charcoal colour with a hint of light-reflecting sparkle). For those who want to stand out even more, Anne Barseghian recommends Metallic Jade eyeliner from the John Donato Cosmetics range. "It's a cream, so you can basically take it and dab it on top of the eyelid. Or you can create a nice solid line for a chic look."

Barseghian suggests using a mineral powder all over the lid prior to eyeliner application. This base emphasizes the liner colour and helps to keep it in place. False eyelashes remain a red carpet essential — apply them carefully and as closely to the lash line as possible. A coat of mascara helps to combine your natural lashes with the impostors.

Those lips!

Red carpet lips are all about making an impact. "What I like to do is use a foundation stick," says Barseghian. After that, she uses Donato's long-lasting lip liner in Scarlett and seals it with Cranberry lipstick. "That will last you the whole night." But ease up on the gloss there, sailor; retro matte lipsticks are big this fall.

That hair!

If you don't have the time or money to head to a salon, you can still glam up your hair fairly easily. "We tend to go into chignon mode," says John Donato. "We like to have a polished look where we're keeping the hair away from the face."

If you hair isn't long enough for a chignon, Donato recommends Jessica Simpson's line of salon clip-on hair extensions, called HairDo. "You can go from medium length or short hair to super long wavy hair within a matter of seconds."

For shorter styles, Donato recommends dampening your hair and working through some hair gel, giving yourself a very defined part and sculpting the hair around the ears for "a super glam, super sophisticated and modern red carpet look."

GETTY IMAGES

Get Penelope Cruz's (left) lush locks with clip-on hair extensions or Drew Barrymore's red pout with a retro matte lipstick (big for fall).

Tools to get the red carpet look

Lancôme colour fever matte in red avant-garde, ($31.50). lancome.ca

Flirt It Lash Duo ($10). 1-877-SEPHORA

Vasanti Long-Lash Mascara ($16). vasanticosmetics.com

Limited edition Lise Watier Metal Ink Liquid Eyeliner (available in green and charcoal, $19). lisewatier.com

The HairDo Pony ($69). Available at Donato Salon + Spa (donato.ca) and fine hair salons across Canada.

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Mirror, Mirror on the wall

Who spends more time looking at themselves: Canadian or American women? It looks like our neighbours log more mirror time each day, according to statistics from global market researcher Synovate. **BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE**

We all need more hugs

Stop punishing teens for this most healing human gesture

There is a frightening trend spreading amongst today's teenagers. No, I'm not talking about texting each other naked pictures, surfing porn online or even having sex before they learn to drive.

The alarming teenage behaviour that has caused such concern in some U.S. schools that it has been banned is — wait for it — rampant hugging.

Yes, you read that correctly.

Seems hugging is all the rage among teenagers these days. According to a recent Toronto Star article on the "phenomenon," they hug each other to express everything from "hello," "goodbye," "good job," or even "hey, it's recess!"

Girls hug each other sideways, putting their arms abound each other shoulder's and press themselves cheek-to-cheek in utter glee. The surprise hug comes from behind and usually is followed by squeals of laughter and joy. Guys even hug their guy friends, a behaviour that, in my day, would have resulted in ridicule at best and, at worst, something I can't repeat in a family paper.

A recent graduate of St. Mary's in Pickering said hugging actually clogs up the hallways when you're trying to get to class.

Visit Josey's Sexcetera blog at metronews.ca/blog

While no Canadian schools have yet gone so far as to ban hugging, the article quotes Kate Dickson, an English teacher at the Toronto School of Liberal Arts who says she requests at least "a ribbon of daylight" between hugging students.

Another school in Edmonton is discouraging its students from hugging, supposedly to stop the spread of H1N1 flu. Right.

Am I the only one who thinks this is absurd? Not only are hugs awesome, they are actually good for you.

Hugging is powerful. Hugging releases oxytocin, the brain's bonding chemical. Studies going back as far as the 1930s have shown that people who did not receive adequate cuddling and touch as newborns later suffered both mentally and physically, even if all other basic needs were met. Others have shown that old folks who don't get hugs may become senile faster and die sooner.

Maybe instead of banning hugging among teens, we should encourage it more among adults. Hugging your partner several times a day would help keep you connected and your relationship stronger, especially when life gets in the way and we literally and figuratively lose touch with each other.

And just imagine at work if every time you did a really great job or when something didn't go well, someone in the office walked up to you and gave you a great big hug?

Sadly, our fears about inappropriate touching and teens getting too physical too soon have overshadowed an appreciation of one of the simplest, most healing human gestures.

I say do yourself a favour and hug someone today, will ya?

Josey Vogels is a sex and relationship columnist and author of five books on the subjects. For more info, visit joseyvogels.com.

TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Friends Julia Chachura (13), Sarah Jasion (13) and Melanie Ridler (13) share a hug — a gesture some U.S. schools have banned.

I heart cooking with artichokes

FOOD Artichokes are packed with antioxidants, but did you know they hold their disease-fighting punch even after cooking?

That's the finding of a recent study of 20 vegetables, including beets, broad beans, Brussels sprouts, carrots and leeks. Spanish researchers examined the antioxidant capacities in their raw state and after boiling, pressure cooking (akin to steaming), baking, microwaving, using a griddle pan and frying. Artichokes kept most of their high antioxidant levels for all methods, reported the study, published in The Journal of Food Science. Two vegetables that lost a lot of antioxidants were cauliflower and zucchini — so they're healthiest raw.

"The best cooking methods (for keeping antioxidants) are griddling, microwave cooking and baking," says Maria Antonia Murcia Tomás, lead researcher of the study and nutrition professor at the University of Murcia in Spain.

Food prep that involves water, such as boiling and pressure cooking, can destroy water-soluble antioxidants, she says.

LISA HANNAM/ BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE

Artichokes are packed with antioxidants.

besthealthmag.ca

Best Health is now on newsstands. For more Best Health, visit besthealthmag.ca

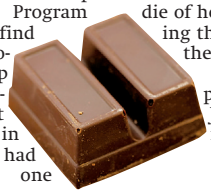
Chocolate gets a check mark

STUDY Do you need more evidence that chocolate is good for you?

A Swedish study has found that chocolate protects your heart. Researchers working in the Stockholm Heart Epidemiology Program wanted to find out if chocolate can help prevent further heart problems in people who had already had one heart attack. They enrolled 1,169 people who had been hospitalized for a first heart attack but who did not have diabetes. Those who ate chocolate at least twice a week were the least likely die of heart disease during the eight years of the study.

The study was published in the Journal of Internal Medicine.

CELIA MILNE/ FOR METRO CANADA



France focuses on well-being

France plans to include happiness and well-being in its measurements of economic progress, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said Monday, beckoning other countries to join in a "revolution" in the way growth is tracked after the global economic crisis. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ADHD drug abuse

Studies show use could affect kids' brains

CELIA MILNE
For Metro Canada

New concerns are emerging that drugs for kids with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) can be overused and abused.

ADHD drugs such as Ritalin are in wide circulation. It's estimated that between five per cent and 10 per cent of children in Canada have the disorder, which means they have trouble focussing and are often hyperactive or impulsive.

Dr. Edmund Higgins, a psychiatrist at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, is concerned that parents and teachers have a lower tolerance these days for mild behavioural problems, and that these drugs may be used too liberally. He wrote about this in the July 2009 issue of Scientific American.

In the U.S., prescribing of methylphenidate (brand names Ritalin or Concerta) and the amphetamine Adderall rose 12 per cent between 2000 and 2005. "Over the past 15 years," writes Higgins, "doctors have been pinning the ADHD label on — and prescribing stimulants for — a rapidly rising number of patients, including those with moderate to mild inattention, some of whom … have a normal ability to focus."

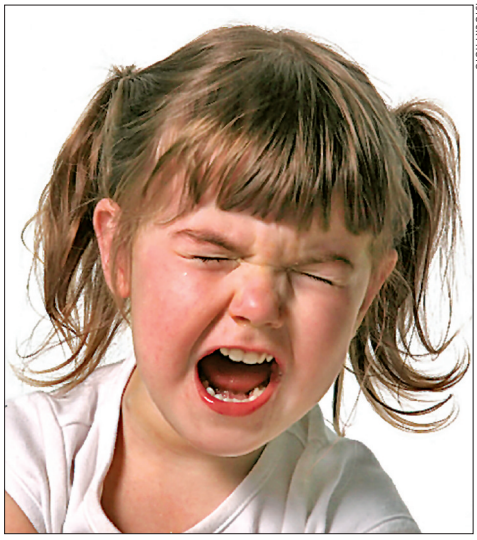
He writes about a child in Grade 6 whose mother came to him asking for Ritalin. But when he tested the child, he found an almost-normal ability to focus. Like any medication, the risks are not zero. Higgins points to a smattering of recent studies – mostly in animals — that show these drugs could have negative effects on the brain when kids become adults. These stimulants have a way of acting that is similar to cocaine. And, like cocaine, possible effects over the long term could be depressed mood, increased anxiety and cognitive defects.

There is also some evidence that these medications can stunt growth in children.

The vast majority of adults with ADHD also have another psychiatric illness such as anxiety disorder or drug addiction. Is that from stimulant use as children? The scientific jury is still out, but it's possible, writes Higgins.

The article suggests keeping doses of stimulants as low as possible, and having doctors monitor blood levels to make sure doses are low. "Without these or similar measures, large numbers of people who regularly take stimulants may ultimately struggle with a new set of problems spawned by the treatments themselves," he writes.

Another problem with Ritalin and similar stimulants is they are sometimes abused by young people and adults because they can provide a "high." Ritalin abusers have been known to steal the drug or bully children into giving it up, according to a report from Alberta Health Services.



STOCK PHOTO

Dr. Edmund Higgins is concerned that parents and teachers have a lower tolerance these days for mild behavioural problems, and that ADHD drugs may be used too liberally.

"Doctors have been pinning the ADHD label on — and prescribing stimulants for — a rapidly rising number of patients, including those with … a normal ability to focus." Dr. Edmund Higgins, psychiatrist

Try cherry juice for sports

NUTRITION Cherry juice is being promoted as a new sports drink.

Cherries, with their deep red colour, contain antioxidants which have anti-inflammatory power.

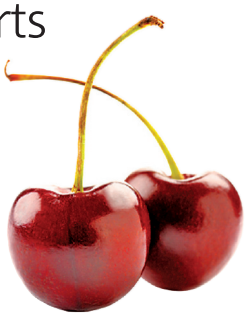
In a study conducted by researchers from Oregon Health and Science University, drinking cherry juice twice a day for seven days before a long-distance run alleviated post-run muscle pain by several degrees.

Drinking other juices had less of an effect. They reported that cherry juice is a healthy alternative to taking over-the-counter pain killers after running.

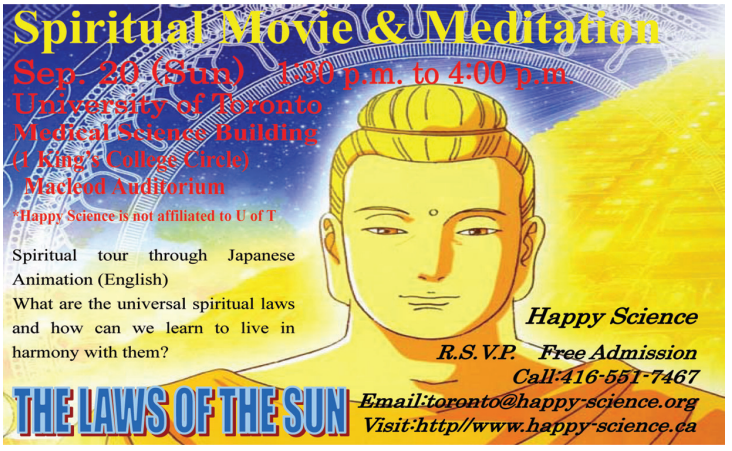
The new research was presented at the recent American College of Sports Medicine Conference in Seattle, Wash.

To be effective, the drink has to be 100 per cent cherry juice.

CELIA MILNE/
FOR METRO CANADA



New research suggests cherry juice is a healthy alternative to taking over-the-counter pain killers after running.



Gestational diabetes
Pregnant women who snore three or more nights a week have a 14 per cent chance of developing gestational diabetes, according to a study. Pregnancy itself raises the chances of snoring, but it's still worth mentioning to your doctor. **BEST HEALTH MAGAZINE**

Health in brief

PREGNANCY Ready to have a baby? New Jersey-based doctor Charles Hux shares his tips for would-be moms on womb safety in Nine Healthy Months, the first in what's slated to be a series of books on pregnancy-related issues. Hux is also featured on the TLC series A Baby Story. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Get your game face on

Some A-lister celebs turning to Intraceuticals facials

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

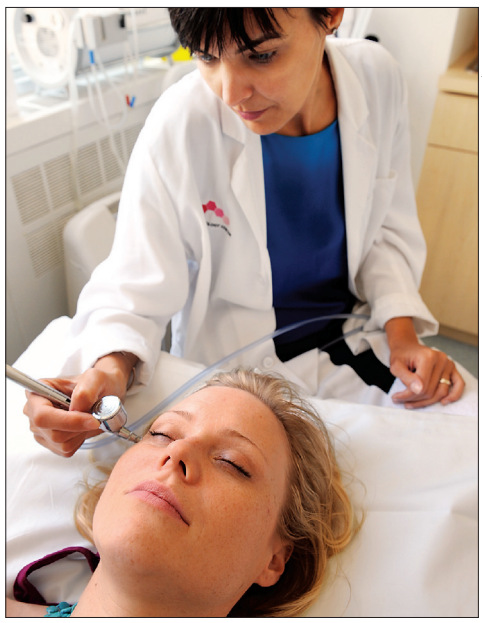
JANINE FALCON
For Metro Canada

"I love, love, love them," gushes Gemini-nominated actor Kristin Booth (Flashpoint).

Booth is referring to Intraceuticals Oxygen treatments, skin-rejuvenating facials that more and more A-listers depend on to get ready for close-ups. (Booth did a series of them in the weeks leading up to TIFF).

Unlike other facials, Intraceuticals aren't about exfoliation, extractions or goopy layers of cream. And although they make use of hyperbaric oxygen therapy — using oxygen at a higher level of pressure than normal — they're not exactly about oxygen, either.

"The Intraceuticals facial uses a cooling, forced stream of oxygen via a treatment wand to push a hyaluronic-acid serum from the epidermis (the skin's surface) to the dermis underneath," explains Dr. Sandy Skotnicki-Grant, medical director of the Bay Dermatology Centre where Booth goes for her appointments (baydermatology-centre.com). Hyaluronic acid, a molecule the skin also makes, can hold up to 1,000 times its weight in water. "It hydrates the skin, immediately firms and plumps it up to smooth out fine lines, and gives the complexion a nice glow."

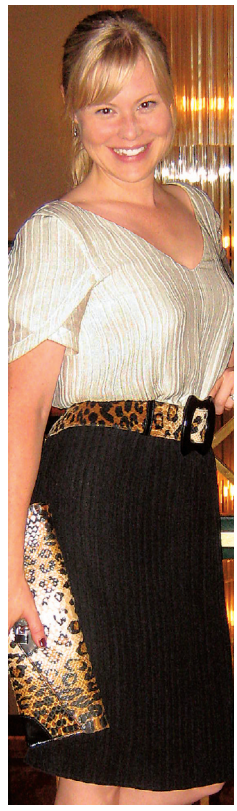

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Actor Kristin Booth getting a Intraceuticals Opulence Brightening Infusion facial from Bay Dermatology Centre Aesthetican Genny Day. The treatment helps give the complexion a glow.

"Maybe they travel all the time, smoke a little or party a lot. This (treatment) makes their skin look refreshed and glowy."
Dr. Sandy Skotnicki-Grant, medical director of the Bay Dermatology Centre

Eva Longoria, Sarah Jessica Parker and Kristen Davis have enjoyed treatments. Justin Timberlake is quoted on the Intraceuticals website (intraceuticals.com) as saying they make his skin "look dope," and Madonna is reportedly such a fan that she owns at least one Intraceuticals machine.

Starting at $225, the 40-minute treatment is "great for women in their late 30s, 40s and older," comments Skotnicki-Grant. "Maybe they travel all the time, smoke a little or party a lot. This makes their skin look refreshed and glowy." Effects are cumulative, so the recommendation is a series of appointments although results are evident after the first. Skotnicki-Grant says the benefits are actually more noticeable around day two or three, and can last up to three weeks.


ROB SALEM/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Kristin Booth is seen at the Hotel Intercontinental last Thursday. She's in two TIFF films, Crackie and Defendor.

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Complimentary brow service
Receive a complimentary brow service at Murale's Benefit Brow Bar on Sept. 26 (between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.) by calling 416-384-1858. Murale is located at 1090 Don Mills Rd. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Murale feeds T.O.'s beauty appetite

New retail store rivals Sephora

JANINE FALCON
For Metro Canada

The eagerly awaited local doors of Canada's newest beauty mecca, Murale, recently swung open at the Shops at Don Mills much to the delight of the city's beauty-obsessed, whose appetite appears merely whetted by Toronto's four Sephora stores.

"I love Sephora like a kid loves candy," says makeup artist Joy David-Tilberg, founder and editor of MakeupJunkie.ca. "Murale just offers a whole new experience. I love the bright, wide open space because I need all the room there is to play away. It also offers a lot of lines that Sephora doesn't, like Chanel and YSL to Gosh and Quo."

The retail store, which is owned by Shoppers Drug Mart Corporation, already has locations in Ottawa and Montreal with plans to open five more in Canada this year, including Vancouver and Calgary.

Ali de Bold, co-founder of social-media shopping site ChickAdvisor.com, is impressed with Murale's service elements, which include a pharmacy counter, skin-analysis station, mini brow-shaping bar and a private cabine for spa services such as facials. "There's a wide variety of price points, too, so you can get your favourite L'Oréal Paris mascara with a new Bobbi Brown eye shadow or Nars lipstick," adds de Bold.

Murale's range of niche and exclusive brands are a hit as well. The selection includes the Lippmann Collection, nail care and colour from celebrity manicurist Deborah Lippmann; Compagnie De Provence, a contemporary bath and body line with traditional en Provence roots; Potter & Moore, fine English fragrances with a story dating back to 1749; and Principessa Beauty, a sweet Canadian line of spa-inspired body treats.

"I'm all over this UK-based skincare line Rodial, whose Glam Balm wipes strip off makeup but leave skin feeling clean and moisturized," says writer Katherine Flemming, who has a blog on the side called I Heart Beauty. "I'm also pretty impressed with the scent of Chocolat O Lait body lotion from Sensation Chocolat Paris: creamy and chocolatey, but not cloying."

You don't have to be an addict to appreciate Murale (Murale.ca), though. "It's a great place for the beauty novice," says David-Tilberg. "You can explore from brand to brand, and if it gets overwhelming, the friendly beauty masters can help. Don't be intimidated. Just have fun!"

Bobbi Brown metallic long-wear cream shadow, $28.

Rodial Glam Balm Wipes, $25.

Pandora's Makeup Box 4 Eyeshadow Palette, $48.

Chanel Le Vernis nail colour in Intermezzo, $26.

Murale Professional Brushes makeup (ranging from $22 to $48).

PHOTO COURTESY OF MURALE

Shops at Don Mills' new Murale beauty store offers exclusive brands as well as services such as bridal makeup application, facials, a Benefit Brow Bar and a dermatological skincare station.

Exclusive skincare at Murale

With its sophisticated skincare department complete with skincare analysis station, the latest in serious skincare from dermatological to natural brands, facial services and full-time in-house aestheticians, Murale is something of a cheerleader for skin. Along with Vichy, Neostrata and Prevage, exclusive niche brands beckon for the woman in search of her skin's best pep squad:

- 3Lab is a full-line of facial care including cleansers, toners, serums, eye creams and moisturizers, formulated with a bio-engineered growth hormone to help skin repair and renew itself the way it did when it was young. From $16 to $440.
- Rodial for face and body, developed in the UK by a former beauty editor in conjunction with a team of plastic surgeons and derms, is chock full of naturally-derived ingredients designed to boost skin's firmness, smoothness and radiance. From $25 to $180.
- June Jacobs Spa Collection for face and body is all about potent botanicals, enzymes and plant extracts, such as red and green tea, aloe vera, vitamin E and goji berry. From $28 to $170.
- Natura Bissé offers The Cure Pure Serum, which puts a focus on stimulating sirtuin activity. Sirtuins are enzymes naturally produced by the body and thought to repair damaged cells and extend cellular lifespan. $315.

JANINE FALCON/ FOR METRO CANADA

Left: 3Lab Super "h" Serum cream (age-defying booster), $220

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I cleansed my body and the kilos started melting off!

Lise Marie lives in Norway and works at a car dealership. She has always loved candy and sodas, but after years of low energy and steady weight gain, she decided to make a change in her life.

"In only 10 weeks I lost 25 kilos! It was wonderful and I am in no doubt that Biofirm was the reason for my success. It was like getting a kick-start back to my old self. I felt more energetic from the start and that motivated me to change my lifestyle."

Kick-starting the diet

"I have always been a sugar junkie. I really needed it to keep my energy high all day. But it made me gain weight and at my highest, I weighed 94 kilos.

Then I read about Biofirm in a newspaper, and about how it would help my body expel toxins and thereby lose weight. I bought a package and started taking the tablets every day, while drinking lots of water and eating almost as usual.

Very quickly I noticed a change. Initially I didn't feel so great, but then after a week, I felt better and more energetic, which then made me want to move around more. After about 2 weeks the weight started dropping fast. At one point my mother actually starting getting worried about me, which I can understand. But I was sure it was because my body needed the cleanse, in order to release the fat."

Maintaining my weight

"Today my body feels light and I can fit my old clothes again. My sugar cravings are much weaker, and I am more physically active. That combination has really worked for me, to keep the weight off. Now I maintain my healthy weight with a cleanse once a year."

Biofirm is a Danish Detox product used for cleansing the body and reducing weight. Its the No. 1 detox product in Europe. In Canada, it can be bought in most pharmacies and health food stores.

WHAT IS DETOXING?

Spas and cleanses are not only reserved for the rich and famous. The herbal tablet Biofirm has helped thousands get a healthier lifestyle.

Whenever you eat food it gets processed in the body, to create energy. In the process, waste products, or toxins, are created. Other toxins, such as chemicals, air particles, pesticides and heavy metals also enter your body. But whether its toxins your body makes or toxins your body receives, they all need to be excreted. If they are not, they affect your health and you start getting symptoms like fatigue, repressed immune system, skin problems, joint problems, mental cloudiness, increased fat accumulation and problems losing weight.

What is Biofirm?

Biofirm is an herbal tablet that contains well-known and tested plant extracts. The natural active ingredients support the livers function and increase detoxification. The herbs also help the kidneys increase the urine production, to support the lymph system and its excretion of toxins.

Facts about Biofirm!

- Biofirm works without having to fast
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- Biofirm is produced in Scandinavia and has been used since 1992.
- Biofirm is the No.1 detox product in Europe and was voted detox product of the year in the UK!
- Biofirm helps the body release toxins that are stored in fat cells.
- Biofirms helps kick-start weight loss.

BioFirm is available in Canada at participating pharmacies in: **Loblaws, Superstores, Extra Foods, Zehrs, Zellers, Shoppers Drug Mart, Rexall, PharmaPlus, GNC and health food stores.** For more information, please call 1-800-261-4223 or visit us at **www.newnordic.ca**

Fresh and juicy

Peaches, nectarines, apricots, plums — take your healthy pick

Tasty stone fruit — so-called because of the stone-like seed inside — make perfect snacks, as they tuck easily into lunch bags or picnic baskets. Here's what they can do for your health:

Create collagen

A cup (250 mL) of sliced apricots or plums has about one quarter of your daily vitamin C needs. Vitamin C helps the body form collagen — the main protein in connective tissue — in bones, cartilage, muscle and blood vessels. It also helps to increase iron absorption.

Care for your nerves and your muscles

Bored with bananas but want to get enough potassium (key for proper nerve and muscle function)? Two small peaches have slightly more of this essential mineral than a medium banana.

Sharpen eyesight

Apricots are delicious raw, but their carotenoids — antioxidants that give the flesh its vibrant orange colour — become more available to the body when cooked. Beta-carotene, for one, converts to vitamin A to help maintain eyesight, skin membranes and immune function.

Stregthen bones

Two plums contain about one tenth of your daily vitamin K, which helps maintain strong bones. Researchers have found that low levels of vitamin K are associated with an increased incidence of osteoarthritis in hands and knees.

Stay regular

Cut up a peach on your cereal and have a nectarine as a snack. But don't peel them! The skin provides insoluble fibre that helps prevent constipation.

MARGARET NEARING/ BEST HEALTH CANADA

Good for your muscles: Two small peaches have slightly more potassium than a medium-sized banana.

Recipe ideas

Now's the time to add stone fruits to almost any meal!

- Late-summer salad: Put peach slices and crumbled feta on a bed of mixed greens. Drizzle with a dressing of Dijon, olive oil and white-wine vinegar.
- Better-tasting curry: Simmer nectarine slices in your favour-ite chicken curry for the final five minutes of cooking.
- Grill an easy side dish: Lightly brush peach, nectarine or large plum halves with canola oil and sprinkle with freshly ground pepper. Cook two to three minutes per side. Serve with barbecued chicken, pork chops or fish.

MARGARET NEARING/ BEST HEALTH CANADA

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Rosh Hashanah
One of the "seven species" of foods native to biblical Israel, the pomegranate was a key element of Rosh Hashanah — the Jewish new year, starting Friday this year — centuries before promotion of suspected health benefits splashed the juice into all manner of smoothies, cocktails and other drinks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Food

As of June, there were more than 1,800 food and drink products that contained pomegranate seeds or juice, says Tom Vierhile a director at market research firm DataMonitor. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Compare

Now look at that number in contrast to four years ago: In 2005, there were just 258 products that contained the fruit's seeds or juice.

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Mediterranean morsels

Greek Pasta Bake

SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS:
- 1/2 lb (250 g) ground beef
- 1/2 lb (250 g) ground lamb
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- 3 tsp (15 ml) dried oregano
- 1 tsp (5 ml) dried basil
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) pepper
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) dried thyme
- 1 can (14 oz /398 ml) tomato sauce
- 1 can (14 oz /398 ml) diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) lemon juice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) sugar
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) ground cinnamon
- 2 cups (500 ml) uncooked rigatoni or large tube pasta
- 4 oz (113 g) feta cheese, crumbled

METHOD:

In large skillet, cook beef and lamb over medium heat until no longer pink; drain. Stir in onion, garlic, oregano, basil, salt, pepper and thyme; mix well. Add tomato sauce, tomatoes and lemon juice.

Bring to boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in sugar and cinnamon. Simmer, uncovered, 15 minutes longer.

Meanwhile, cook pasta according to package directions; drain. Stir into meat mixture. Transfer to greased 2-qt. (2 l) baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese.

Cover and bake at 325 F (160 C) 45 minutes. Uncover; bake 15 minutes longer or until heated through.

Mediterranean Chicken

Mediterranean Chicken with Olives

SERVES 4

INGREDIENTS:
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) olive oil
- 2 onions, roughly chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) chopped fresh rosemary
- 1/4 oz (40 g) chorizo sausage, skinned and diced
- 2 large red peppers, deseeded and roughly chopped
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) sun-dried tomatoes, roughly chopped
- 14 oz (398 ml) can chopped tomatoes
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) dry white wine
- 4 skinless chicken breast fillets or large thighs
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) pitted olives (black, green or both)

METHOD:

Heat oil in large, heavy flameproof casserole dish or deep frying pan. Add onions, garlic and rosemary and cook gently, stirring frequently, 15 minutes until soft and golden.

Add chorizo and peppers and cook over medium heat, stirring frequently, for a couple of minutes or until sausage turns slightly golden.

Add sun-dried tomatoes, canned tomatoes with their juice and wine. Season with freshly ground black pepper, then stir well and bring to simmer.

Add chicken and stir to coat with sauce. Bring to boil, then reduce heat so sauce simmers. Cover and cook 25–30 minutes until chicken is tender and sauce is thick.

Just before serving, stir in pitted olives and cook just long enough to heat through.

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

m.metronews.ca

Scan this barcode for more Food and Recipes on your smartphone.
Learn how to scan the barcode with the instructions at the top of pg 3

LiquidAssets

Peter Rockwell is the everyman's wine writer, working in the liquor industry for more than 25 years and travelling the globe looking for something to fill his glass and put into words.

The Fab Two

I probably should have been out raking leaves or something, but I spent this past weekend with four old friends: John, Paul, George and Ringo. Yes folks, I was one of the foolish who bought The Beatles' new boxed CD set — in mono no less.

As a big fan I just couldn't resist giving the Fab Two (and the family members of the other guys) more of my hard earned money. And while I may not be a professional music critic, the new discs sound pretty darn amazing.

To enhance the experience of rediscovering each album, I needed a wine that begged to be sipped and savoured. **Masi's 2006 Campofiorin ($17.45 - $19.99)** was a perfect match for a few reasons.

While the red Italian from Veneto shows off lots of fruit (think plum and raisin) that tastes terrific without food; it's sort of a remastered version of **Masi's Bonacosta Valpolicella Classico ($15.45 - $16.99).** A wine that's 2007 vintage is as light and cherry-filled as ever.

As a ripasso wine Campofiorin's flavour profile comes from its juice being passed over the guck left in the vats after the Valpolicella's fermentation. It comes out richer and rounder — just like my new CDs.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

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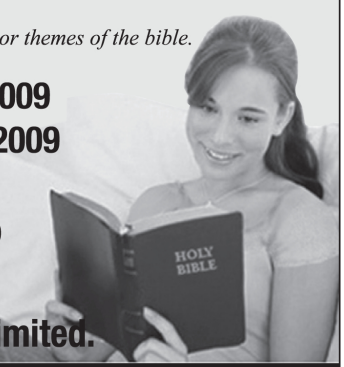

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Top two

Mastering the Art of French Cooking, Volume I (hardcover) by Julia Child was the best selling cookbook at Amazon.ca last week. The same book in paperback came in second place. METRO NEWS SERVICES

The hottest name at TIFF: Nikki Beach

Following seven successful years at the Cannes & Venice Film Festivals, exclusive lifestyle brand Nikki Beach is uprooting it's infamous film festival party hub from the beaches of the La Croisette to the towers of Toronto in the heart of Yorkville.

Nikki Beach is catering, planning and styling the hottest movie premiere after-parties, press junkets and club nights during the Toronto International Film Festival at The Roof Lounge of the Park Hyatt.

By day, movie industry VIPs can lounge, surrounded by Nikki Beach's sleek signature décor of white organic fabrics, natural woods from Vietnam and free flowing white linen curtains, while dining on platters of fresh gourmet cuisine and sushi for lunch and dinner (open daily from noon – 4 a.m. until Thursday) By night, Nikki Beach will consist of glamorous movie premieres, and unique showcases from international artists and world famous DJs.

Over the last seven years, Nikki Beach has catered events at the Cannes & Venice Film festivals; with a clientele that has included Mariah Carey and Lee Daniels hosting a private dinner for their movie Precious, Woody Allen and Scarlett Johansson hosting the premier party for their movie Match Point, and Sharon Stone hosting her press conference for Basic Instinct II.

This recipe, the Nikki Beach Chicken Satay, will be featured this week at TIFF. For more information on Nikki Beach, please visit nikkibeach.com.

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

GETTY IMAGES

Over the past seven years, Nikki Beach at the Cannes and Venice Film Festivals have catered to an incredible clientele, including Mariah Carey, Scarlett Johansson, Penelope Cruz and Natalie Portman — just to name a few.

Nikki Beach Chicken Satay

INGREDIENTS:

- Trimmed skinless, boneless chicken breast cut into 1-inch strips, 6 oz per portion
- Marinated in ¼ cup sesame oil, 1 clove chopped garlic

THE VEGGIES:

- 1 cup rough chopped Napa cabbage (1 inch pieces)
- ¼ cup fine julienne carrot, ¼ cup julienne snow peas, ¼ cup shitake mushrooms cut in strips

THE SAUCE:

- 1 tbsp sesame oil
- 1 clove minced garlic
- 1/2 tsp minced ginger root
- ¼ tsp chili flakes
- 1/3 cup coconut milk
- ¼ cup smooth peanut butter
- 2 oz chicken stock
- 1 tsp fish sauce
- Season with Kosher salt and white pepper

METHOD:

Mix ingredients for the sauce in advance.

In a hot sautee pan, heat a tbsp of oil, add the marinated chicken and brown on all sides.

Add the prepared veggies and sautee till tender.

Finish with the sauce and simmer at a lower heat for 3 to 4 minutes.

Serve with steamed Jasmine rice to your favourite friends.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nikki Beach Chicken Satay

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Travel Sep 26 - Oct 6/ts + taxes & fees $347

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Los Angeles $459
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INCLUDES limo transfers, 3 nights accom in Hobart and Tasman Island Cruise. Depart daily Feb 1 - Mar 31/ggv. ADD Hobart city tour for $76.

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Holidays

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Circus Circus + taxes & fees $241
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 4 nights 3-star accom on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Nov 23/swg/wg. UPGRADE to 4-star Flamingo for $8 per night.

Orlando Family Special $199*
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INCLUDES roundtrip airfare and 7 nights 3-star accom near *Walt Disney World* Resort. Departs Sep 24/ggv/c6. ADD 7-day *Magic Your Way* Base Ticket for $231 per child.

Florida Fly & Drive $249
+ taxes & fees $220
INCLUDES roundtrip airfare to Fort Lauderdale and 7-day car rental with unlimited mileage to explore Florida at your own pace. Departs Dec 10/ggv/wg.

Jamaica 4-Star $447
Holiday Inn Sunspree + taxes & fees $265
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Partridge gets restraining order
The Hills star Audrina Patridge has been granted a restraining order against a fan who showed up on her doorstep with bizarre and macabre drawings, poems and letters. FEMALEEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

Indy is back
Dust off the fedora and clear out the snakes — Indiana Jones is ready to ride again. Harrison Ford, 67, says he's ready for the globetrotting archaeologist's next adventure. PEOPLE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Seyfried's dual roles

Actress promoting Jennifer's Body and Chloe at TIFF

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada

Since shooting her breakout performance in Mama Mia! in Greece, 24-year-old actress Amanda Seyfried has spent a lot of time in Canada.

Her two TIFF films this year were both shot in Maple Leaf land, but on opposite ends of the country. Jennifer's Body was lensed in Vancouver and Chloe, her film with director Atom Egoyan, in Toronto.

"We actually got to use Toronto as a real setting," she said. "You don't normally get to do that because you're usually using it to cover for another town or masking it as a made up town.

"(Using Toronto as Toronto) makes everything feel more real. It's difficult for anything to seem completely authentic when you're on a movie set but this is as real as it has ever gotten for me."

In Chloe, Seyfried plays an escort hired by Catherine (Julianne Moore) to test her husband's (Liam Neeson) fidelity. It's her first real adult role and one that proves she's capable of more than teen musicals or comedies.

She credits working with Egoyan with pushing her to deepen the character by exploring every facet of Chloe's life.

"I've never worked with anyone who has discussed the character so in-depth with me," she says. "Atom would reiterate things to me with different descriptions and with a twist from what he had said last time. Every time we'd go for dinner or have lunch or sit down for coffee the first thing he would go to was, 'I was thinking that Chloe would do this or that.'

"It was almost completely overwhelming in the beginning but he couldn't have said less because I don't think I would have captured it otherwise."

Chloe is a complicated character with many notes to her personality but with Egoyan's help Seyfried brings her vividly to life on screen.

"It's a broad spectrum of emotions the audience feels about her," she says, "and in order to make the audience feel that way you have to play it right and in order for me to pay it right I had to have Atom Egoyan.

In order for a movie like this to work you have to have someone like Atom Egoyan and there aren't many people out there like him.

"Mr. Egoyan is a genius and he's what good filmmaking is all about. I know it's going to be difficult for me to choose my next project based on what I just went through with him. It has raised the bar into a very high place."

DOANE GREGORY

Best friends Jennifer (Megan Fox, left) and Needy (Amanda Seyfried) enjoy an evening together at a local bar in the film Jennifer's Body.

Jennifer's Body is in theatres this Friday

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

Winfrey campaigned for Obama, now on sidelines

Winfrey

PEOPLE Oprah Winfrey may have been instrumental in getting Barack Obama elected president, but now claims she's on the sidelines.

"I have not said one thing about this political situation and don't intend to," she said. "Everybody knows that I was a big campaigner for Obama and I still am. I think he's doing a great job."

Since taking office in January Obama has faced some strong resistance to his plan to bring universal health care to the U.S., the only major industrialized country to lack such a program. Yesterday, he was speaking on Wall Street to outline financial changes to avert a future crisis like the one that sent the global economy into a tailspin a year ago.

Winfrey made her comments Sunday at the premiere of Precious at the Toronto International Film Festival. Winfrey is the executive producer of the movie. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Kylie's ABBA dream come true

Kylie Minogue fulfilled her lifelong dream by performing alongside Benny Andersson at an ABBA tribute concert Sunday night at the show in London's Hyde Park. She was joined by Andersson for a rendition of When All Is Said and Done. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

'I was so terrified'

Lynskey hits big time with roles opposite Clooney, Damon

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

Melanie Lynskey may not be someone whose name you instantly recognize, but if you're planning on tackling The Toronto International Film Festival, you're going to run into her quite a bit.

The actress is appearing in three films at this year's fest, including Leaves Of Grass, Up In The Air, and The Informant. The unassuming and charming New Zealand native got her start as a teenager with a difficult lead role in Peter Jackson's award-winning Heavenly Creatures and has been working steadily ever since.

"I always wanted to be an actor, but I'm from a small town in New Zealand, so I didn't know anyone who'd ever become one and it didn't seem possible," Lynskey told Metro.

"But (Peter Jackson) came around to my high school when I was 15 and was looking for normal girls to play the role. It's more than I ever hoped for that could actually make it my career, because it was my dream ever since I was a child."

Last year was a big one for Lynskey as she got to work with some pretty impressive directors including Sam Mendes, Jason Reitman, Steven Soderbergh, and Tim Blake Nelson.

Though Lynskey was pleased with the collaborations with her directors, she did notice the difference in their working styles.

CLAUDETTE BARIUS PHOTOS

Melanie Lynskey, right, ties the knot with Danny McBride in Up in the Air; Lynskey stars alongside Matt Damon in the Steven Soderbergh film The Informant.

Toronto International Film Festival
TIFF

"There was a lot of rehearsal and discussion with Tim on Leaves Of Grass, but then Steven Soderbergh was totally hands off and didn't give a lot of notes," Lynskey said. "He's happy with whatever spontaneous thing that happens on set because he likes the performances to be very natural."

As for Juno and Up In The Air director Jason Reitman, Lynskey noted that the young filmmaker was just as professional as the veterans.

Lynskey also got to work alongside some megastar actors including George Clooney on Up In The Air and Matt Damon on The Informant.

"I was so terrified," revealed Lynskey. "I'm not the kind of actress who plays Matt Damon's wife. I'm normally the best friend. Luckily he's the nicest person ever to walk the face of the earth and a very generous actor. He made me feel very comfortable right away."

Lynskey has made over 30 appearances in film and television over the last 15 years, but seems to have found a comfortable home now in comedy and should only continue to gain ground in Hollywood after this string of high profile performances.

"I'm not the kind of actress who plays Matt Damon's wife. I'm normally the best friend."
Melanie Lynskey

Comedy is something the actress says she's always enjoyed and is grateful to have found a home and recognition in the genre.

"It's funny because I remember at the wrap party for Heavenly Creatures, someone said to me 'you should really do comedy.' At the time I thought 'Thanks a lot. You've just been working on a dramatic movie with me for three months.'"

McHale snarky on the double

AMBER RAY
Metro World News

Joel McHale, host of The Soup, throws snarky one-liners at the vapid reality stars his show lampoons with uncanny ease. That whip-smart sarcasm and wry sense of humour is lent to his character in the new NBC sitcom Community — premiering this Thursday.

As Jeff Winger, McHale is a smarmy defence attorney attending community college since the recent revocation of his law degree. But even with classes to attend and study groups to mismanage, McHale isn't throwing in the towel on The Soup just yet.

Q Will starring in Community hurt your street cred and your ability to make fun of other shows on The Soup?

A We don't poke fun at things that are on purpose funny. So we don't ever have clips from the late night talk shows. We don't ever have a moment from shows that were intentionally funny. I'll show clips from Community to promote the show on The Soup. I will be shameless about that. Since I'm not hosting a reality show — or a contestant on one — I don't think they'll be any conflict.

Q So did you just find yourself not busy enough working on The Soup that you decided to star in a sitcom, too?

A Yeah, I said, "I have a wife and kids, why do I want to spend time with them?" Actually, The Soup doesn't take up as much time as you would think because I can do a lot of it at home — watch television and write jokes. Community has really been the most time-consuming thing I've ever done next to shooting movies and guest-starring roles.

Q How much of either show is improvised?

A With The Soup, we write it all out because you have to be regimented to 22 minutes. But then within shooting the show I add all sorts of stuff. And then with Community, there's improvising in it because the cast are all really good at improvising, but the stories and characters are so strong that we don't do a ton of it.

Q You previously starred in another sitcom, The IT Crowd, that never quite made it to the air. What makes Community different?

A With The IT Crowd specifically, that was a four-camera show with an audience, so it's totally different in that way. Community is shot like 30 Rock with a single camera.

• Community premieres Thursday 9:30 p.m. on Citytv.

Bill Cosby tells Detroit students and parents to fix what ails city and schools

Bill Cosby says Detroit residents must take responsibility for improving their city and schools. The 72-year-old actor, comedian and activist taped public service announcements Sunday at the Detroit Public Library's main branch. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Mix of Six

Metro taps into today's best entertainment and event picks

ART Visual Arts at York Quay Centre has a number of art exhibits on display throughout the month, including works by Terrance Houle, Hannah Claus, and Tom Jones. Noon to 6 p.m. 235 Queens Quay W.

THEATRE Famous People Players continues its run of Best of the Best, a musical review featuring old hits. The backlight theatre company's show runs through October. Visit fpp.org

TIFF Yonge-Dundas Square continues its daily TIFF-related activities with music from Monterery Pop, films screenings and dancing. The event runs from noon to 10 p.m. ydsquare.ca

MUSIC One-man band Ty Segall will be blending rockabilly, garage, blues, and old fashioned showmanship at Sneaky Dee's, 431 College. $8 advance. 9pm.

CIRQUE Cirque Du Soleil's show Ovo opens today in Toronto. The show features a colourful world where insects play, work, eat and fight. The tent has been set up at the Port Lands (on Cherry Street). Visit cirquedusoleil.com for more information.

COMEDY The Second City tells Toronto to Shut up and Show Us Your Tweets! as IT preview material from our 64th original sketch comedy revue, opening at the end of the month. 8 p.m. secondcity.com.

• Have an event you would like to see listed? Send an email to listings@metronews.ca or tweet it to @metrotoronto

Dame Vera Lynn shoots to top of Britain's charts

At age 92, Dame Vera Lynn has beaten the Arctic Monkeys and even the Beatles to capture the No. 1 record in Britain.

The singer, who 70 years ago recorded an evocative reminder of home for British soldiers fighting far away, on Monday became the oldest living artist to have a No. 1 record in Britain when her album We'll Meet Again — The Very Best of Vera Lynn took the top spot.

This week's British album charts were a veritable trip down memory lane — the Beatles had 17 records in the top 100, thanks mainly to the release last week of their remastered albums. Michael Jackson had five appearances in the top 100.

Some were expecting the Beatles' offerings to overtake Lynn's record — which was No. 2 last week, after the Arctic Monkeys' Humbug — but their mass release may have prevented any one album from outselling We'll Meet Again.

Lynn was known as the "Forces' Sweetheart," and her songs — including We'll Meet Again, and (There'll be Bluebirds Over) The White Cliffs of Dover — were wartime anthems.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TO	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 9/15/09	265	353	2	TVO	Get Involved	Parks	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Blackpool		Life in Cold Blood		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	NCIS "Aliyah" (HDTV)		(9:01) Big Brother 11 (Season Finale) (Live)				News Final
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	Omni News: Italian Edition (N)		Vivere V	Omni News:	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Super Spellers (N)		Being Erica (DVS)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		The Biggest Loser (Season Premiere) (N)				The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada			Big Bang Th	Law & Order: SVU		CTV News
	218	345	11	E!	*Smokey and the Bandit* ★★★ (1977, Comedy) Burt Reynolds.				*Mad Max 2* ★★★ (1981, Science Fiction) Mel Gibson.				News at 11
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama été	Météo	Visages	Villages	*Eaux profondes* ★★ (1981, Drame)			Folie-aventure	Météo
	-	-	14	-	Raymond	According-Jim	Omni News: S. Asian Edition		Omni News: Cantonese Edition		Two/Half Men	King	Breath
	213	326	15	SUN	The Insider (N)	George Lopez	World's Most Amazing Videos		To Serve and Protect		The Insider	Argos Access	Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	NCIS "Aliyah" (HDTV)		(9:01) Big Brother 11 (Season Finale) (Live)				News 4 at 11
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	The Biggest Loser (Season Premiere) (N)				The Jay Leno Show (N)		News
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Shark Tank		Shaq Vs. (N)		Primetime: Family Secrets (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	Monk		*Meet the Fockers* ★★ (2004, Comedy) Robert De Niro.				A News
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	More to Love Luke proposes to one woman. (N)				Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Foot in Grave	The Brain in Love With Dr. Daniel Amen				Take Charge of Your Money Now!		
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	90210 (HDTV) (N)		Melrose Place (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		WBZ News (N)	Frasier	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	The Tyra Banks Show		According-Jim	Family Guy	KTLA News	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	90210 (N)
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Mansbridge	CBC News: Tonight		CBC News: The National		The Hidden Face of Fear		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report		One Year Later: Recovery		House of Cards		On the Money		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	MMA Conn	UEFA Champions League Soccer Besiktas vs. Manchester United. (HDTV)					Sportsnet Connected		Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at New York Yankees. (HDTV) (Live)						SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
	411	457	58	OLN	Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Ghost Hunters		Bounty Hunter
	417	406	81	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	Jacked!	Jacked!	Pimp My Ride
family	551	542	25	YTV	Drake & Josh	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	What I Like	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	Adrenaline Proj
	554	544	45	TEL	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	King of the Hill	American Dad	Futurama	Robot Chicken
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Old Christine	Friends	Friends	Grocery Bag	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	How to Look Good Naked		Naked Beauty
	570	580	29	MM	One Tree Hill		My Date With...	Video on Trial	Starmaker		MuchNews	My Date With...	One Tree Hill
	615	520	31	A&E	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV) (N)		The Cleaner (N)		The Cleaner
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Il Padrino Parte III (Parte 2 de 2)			Serie A	George Lopez	George Lopez	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	High School Reunion		The Daily Fix
	575	583	38	CMT	Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	CMT on Tour
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		*Destination: Infestation* (2007, Suspense)				Bones		NCIS
	620	523	40	BVO	The Musical Brain		Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Suzie LeBlanc Musical Quest		Garrett Mason	Très Portugal	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Bulging Brides	Bulging Brides	ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	Ancient Discoveries		Cities of the Underworld		Cities of the Underworld		Ultimate Engineering		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	House Party	Comedy Inc.	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	HGTV's Top 10	Dirty Business	SarahCottage	Genevieve	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	MLB Baseball New York Mets at Atlanta Braves. (HDTV) From Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live)						Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*The Salon* ★★ (2005, Comedy) Vivica A. Fox.				Frankie-Neffe	Frankie-Neffe	W. Williams
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Torchwood		Torchwood (Season Finale) (N)		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	Cribs	After	MTV News	Parent Control	MTV Cribs	Daddy's Girls	Daddy's Girls	MTV Cribs	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	'70s Show	'70s Show	The Outer Limits		ET Canada	Switch	Family Guy	'70s Show	'70s Show
	603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	Exotic	Restaurant Makeover		Hell's Kitchen		Good Eats	Good Eats	Iron Chef Am.
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Bless-Father	Dinnerladies	Quantum Leap		Unscripted	I Prophesy	Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		The Dr. Oz Show (HDTV)		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Waybuloo	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Babar	Zigby	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101	TVA	Qui perd gagne (SC)		Caméra café	Taxi 0-22 (SC)	La Promesse (SC)		TVA nouvelles	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy		Missing "Domestic Bliss"		The Closer		Da Vinci's Inquest		Psychic Inv.
	300	601	301	M1	(7:15) *I Am Legend* ★★★ (2007, Science Fiction)				*Quarantine* ★★ (2008, Horror)				*No Country for Old Men*
	305	612	306	PIX	*Diary-Hitman*	(7:20) *The Accidental Witness* (2006)			*Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me*				(10:40) *Pitch* (1997)

critics' corner

The Hidden Face of Fear

We all know what it feels like to be afraid, but why does it feel that way? In this new documentary, neuroscientists and psychologists explain what goes on in the brain in response to frightening situations, focusing on three New Yorkers being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. It also explores how the brain might be "rewired" to prevent PTSD. 10 PM on NW

Live at the Rehearsal Hall

Singer-songwriter k.d. lang takes the stage in this episode performing songs from her album "Watershed." Released in February 2008, it's her first collection of original material since "Invincible Summer" in 2000 and features the single "I Dream of Spring." 8 PM on BVO

Being Erica

Of all the regrets that Erica has about her life to date, the biggest one has to do with the death of Leo, her brother. This trip back in time leads her to learn the hard way that trying to change the past has huge consequences for the future in "Leo." 9 PM on CBC

Marilyn mayhem

Some fans got carried away and extra police had to be called in near Winnipeg's MTS Centre late Sunday night after a concert by shock rocker Marilyn Manson. Several people were seen being taken away in handcuffs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Boyle to cover Stones on America's Got Talent finale

A 75-year-old comedian, five tap-dancing sisters, a contorting breakdancer and a drum quartet faced off last night against six vocal acts during the final competition on America's Got Talent.

But whoever is named the winner on Wednesday night's show may find their moment in the spotlight is overshadowed by the appearance of a celebrity guest. It was announced yesterday that Susan Boyle, the plain Scottish singer who shot to fame on Britain's Got Talent, will perform the Rolling Stones classic Wild Horses during the show.

Boyle's debut album, I Dreamed a Dream, which she's been working on with producer Steve Mac, will be released on Nov. 24.

Other star performers slated for the two-hour show include Shakira and Leona Lewis — both of whom will also premiere new material — as well as Rascal Flatts and the Cirque du Soleil.

The winner of America's Got Talent will be announced Wednesday night.

As for the America's Got Talent finalists, judges Piers Morgan, Sharon Osbourne and David Hasselhoff had already indicated who their favourites were prior to last night's show.

Morgan deemed opera singer Barbara Padilla of Houston "the red-hot favourite" to win the competition's $1 million US prize and chance to headline a Las Vegas show. "That was the single greatest vocal performance we've ever had on America's Got Talent," he said of her semifinal song, Ave Maria.

Hasselhoff picked the Texas Tenors, a trio of cowboy-hat-wearing men from Houston, as "the front-runner to win this competition."

Other finalists included the Voices of Glory, two brothers and a sister from Highland, N.Y., who tend toward gospel material; Drew Stevyns, of Sykesville, Md., who has studied music since he was five years old; and Kevin Skinner, a chicken farmer from Mayfield, Ky., who has been playing guitar since he was a kid — mostly on his porch.

"You've come a long way from that porch and you're going to go a long way further," Hasselhoff told him during the semifinals.

AP/HARRAN/FOX MUSIC

Susan Boyle is mobbed as she lands at Los Angeles International Airport ahead of her appearance this week on America's Got Talent. It's Boyle's first trip to the U.S.

They put their vocal skills up against the comedy of Grandma Lee of Jacksonville, Fla., who developed her joke-telling talents after her husband died of cancer in 1995; the rhythms of Recycled Percussion, a quartet from Goffstown, N.H. that drums on old buckets, hubcaps and other found items; the fancy footwork of The Fab Five, tap-dancing sisters from Morgan, Utah; and the contorting moves of breakdancer Hairo Torres of Grants Pass, Ore.

Viewers of America's Got Talent will choose the winner via phone, email and text-message voting.

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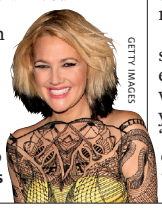
Robbie the reality hound
Singer Robbie Williams is such a huge fan of reality TV, he'd like to become a part of it. "I really like I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! It'd be fun to go on," he said, according to the Sun, and added he'd like to visit the Real Housewives set to see how it's made. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Drew and Justin back on again

REUNION Drew Barrymore and Justin Long appear to be back on once again. Before Barrymore hit the Toronto International Film Festival, the pair was spotted enjoying an intimate meal at Brick Lane Curry House in New York City, where they arrived without a reservation and went unnoticed, a source tells People.


GETTY IMAGES

METRO WORLD NEWS

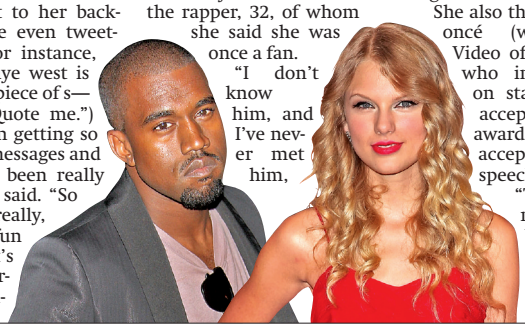
Kanye's sorry for knocking Taylor at VMAs

EATING HIS WORDS After Sunday's MTV Video Music Awards — during which Kanye West brazenly interrupted Taylor Swift's Best Female Video acceptance speech to say that Beyoncé deserved to win — Swift spoke to reporters about the incident, us-magazine.com reports.

"Well, I was standing on stage because I was really excited because I had just won the award," the 19-year-old singer began. "And then I was really excited because Kanye West was on stage. And then I wasn't so excited anymore after that."

After the bizarre incident, she said celebs reached out to her backstage. (Some even tweeted; Pink, for instance, wrote: "Kanye west is the biggest piece of s— on earth. Quote me.")

"I've been getting so many text messages and everybody's been really nice," Swift said. "So I've had a really, really fun night. It's been interesting definitely. It's definitely been an interesting night."



She said she doesn't have any ill will toward the rapper, 32, of whom she said she was once a fan.

"I don't know him, and I've never met him, so..." she said. "I don't want to start anything because I had a great night tonight."

She also thanked Beyoncé (who won Video of the Year), who invited her on stage as she accepted her award to give an acceptance speech.

"They told me to stand by the side of the stage, and I didn't really know what was going to go down," she said. "But I thought it was so wonderful and gracious of her to do what she's always done."

West was also quick to take to his blog to apologize for ruining Taylor Swift's acceptance speech.

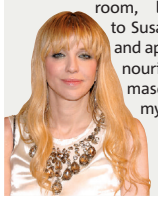
"I'm sooooo sorry to Taylor Swift and her fans and her mom," West wrote after the ceremony. "I spoke to her mother right after and she said the same thing my mother would've said. She is very talented."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Celebrity tweets

Josh Groban weighs in on the Kanye West VMAs controversy, Courtney Love goes after an accountant she feels has done her wrong, and Diablo Cody had some quiet time away from home.

- @joshgroban Kanye, congratulations, i'm going to let you finish...but SOYBOMB HAD ONE OF THE BEST LAME INTERRUPTIONS OF ALL TIME! OF ALL TIME!
- @courtneylover79 just found the taxes you did when you refinanced Kim Cobain's and Wendy Cobain's property and this ought to be fun since my tax lawyer is INSANE.
- @diablocody I may or may not be alone in a hotel room, listening to Susan Boyle and applying a nourishing masque to my hair.



METRO WORLD NEWS

Elton's adoption hits red tape

WILL HE PULL A MADONNA? Singer Elton John and his longtime partner David Furnish won't be able to go home with the Ukrainian orphan they want to adopt, a Ukrainian family minister said Monday — citing a national law that prohibits unmarried couples from adopting, the Associated Press reports.

John and Furnish, who have been in a civil partnership since 2005, met the 14-month-old Lev while touring an orphanage where many of the children's parents have died from AIDS, people.com reports.

"I would love to adopt him," John, 62, said over the weekend. "I don't know how we do that but he has stolen my heart."

Ukrainian laws are very strict when it comes to adoption. The laws ban same-sex couples from adopting, and parents cannot be more than 45 years older than the child.

According to the country's law, should Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko grant John and Furnish a presidential dispensation, the pair would also have to adopt Lev's brother, who is also in care.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

ScarJo clears house of comic books

THE COMIC BOOK GUY'S DREAM Scarlett Johansson is planning a superhero clear-out of her house, femalefirst.co.uk.

The actress plays Russian spy Black Widow in the upcoming Iron Man 2, while her husband Ryan Reynolds starred as villain Deadpool in the X-Men franchise. Between the two, Johansson says their house is full of comics.

She said: "There is a lot of superhero stuff going on for us at the moment ... It's fun to get into that whole world together even if there is quite a stack of comic books taking up space!"

Still, the 24-year-old is keen to reprise her Marvel role. "The Black Widow has many different incarnations and different storylines so I'm hoping she will be able to continue in that way," she said recently.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No more Mr. Nice Director

SOURPUSS Guy Ritchie will never make a "nice" movie, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The Sherlock Holmes director likes his films to have action and conflict, so he'll never play it safe.

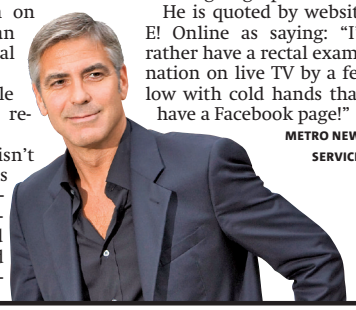
He said: "I have decided that 'nice' can ruin a movie. A nice theme about something nice with people being nice towards one another is just f—ing boring."

"But why is 'nice' so unattractive within the world of film? Because there's no conflict, and movies thrive on conflict and contrast. I must add that I've only been sitting on this theory for two hours."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Facebook a pain in his butt

HE REALLY, REALLY HATES THEM George Clooney would rather have a rectal examination on live TV than join a social networking site, female first.co.uk reports.



The actor isn't a fan of sites such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter and says an intrusive medical would be a more preferable option than signing up for them.

He is quoted by website E! Online as saying: "I'd rather have a rectal examination on live TV by a fellow with cold hands than have a Facebook page!"

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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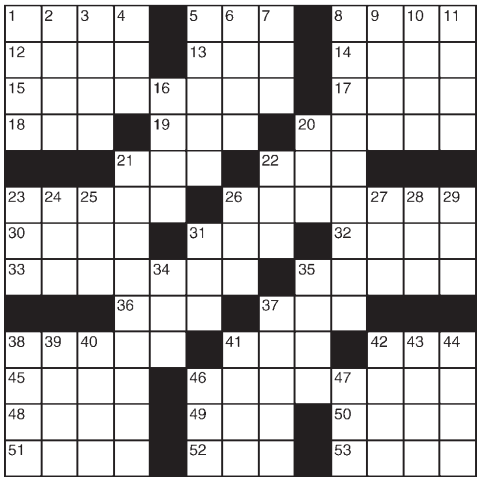


Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	9	7	5		8			6
		1	9	6	4			
	8		2					
		2				5	7	1
4	7	5				6		
					7		6	
			8	3	2	9		
5			1		6	4	8	

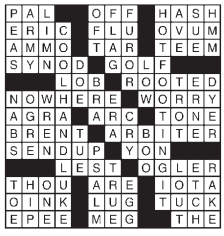
ACROSS

1 Sail support
5 Suitcase
8 Cooling devices
12 Reverberate
13 Lawyers' org.
14 Out of the storm
15 Time-saver
17 Ski-lift type
18 Nay opposite
19 Deteriorate
20 Muffler
21 Container for cookies
22 8-Across' shout
23 Pocatello's state
26 Frustrates
30 Ms. Moore
31 Egg — yung
32 Ark builder
33 Con
35 Act segment
36 April follower
37 Adversary
38 Curtain material
41 Hawaiian garland
42 TV watchdog org.
45 Press
46 Whopper
48 Foolish one
49 Lennon's lady
50 Microwave, e.g.
51 Lambs' mothers
52 Sawbuck
53 Warp crosser

DOWN

1 Arizona city
2 Sore
3 Oxford, for one
4 Rocky peak
5 Pancetta, e.g.
6 Touch
7 Gangster's gun
8 "Yeah, that'll happen!"
9 Actress Jessica
10 Approach
11 Helot
16 Small combo
20 Witnessed
21 One kind of Girl Scout cookies
22 Pi follower
23 Cards at the door
24 Morning moisture
25 Parisian pal
26 Placekicker's pride
27 Canape topping
28 Hosiery shade
29 That woman
31 Aviate
34 River blocker
35 Earth
37 Criminal
38 Faction
39 Boast
40 Portrayal
41 Diane or Nathan
42 Most popular, briefly
43 Staff leader?
44 Minimal change
46 Young one
47 AAA job

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



5	6	8	9	7	4	1	2	3
7	4	9	2	1	3	8	6	5
3	1	2	5	8	6	4	7	9
8	9	3	1	6	5	2	4	7
1	2	4	3	9	7	6	5	8
6	7	5	4	2	8	9	3	1
9	5	7	8	4	2	3	1	6
4	8	6	7	3	1	5	9	2
2	3	1	6	5	9	7	8	4

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

Metro Recipe of the Day

French-Style Chicken in Wine

INGREDIENTS:

12 shallots or pear onions
1-1/2 tbsp (20 ml) garlic-flavoured olive oil
2 oz (60 g) back bacon, cut into thin strips
12 cremini or white mushrooms
4 chicken pieces, such as breast halves
Several sprigs parsley, stems bruised
Several sprigs fresh thyme
1 bay leaf
2/3 cup (150 ml) chicken stock
1-1/2 cups (375 ml) full-bodied red wine, such as shiraz
2 carrots, cut into chunks
Pinch sugar
1 tbsp (15 ml) cornstarch
Salt and fresh-ground black pepper
Chopped parsley

METHOD:

1. Put shallots or onions in heatproof bowl and pour over enough boiling water to cover. Leave 30 seconds, then drain. When cool enough to handle, peel and set aside.
2. Heat 1 tbsp (15 ml) oil in Dutch oven over medium heat. Add bacon and sauté, stirring often, until crisp, 3 minutes. Remove bacon with slotted spoon and set aside.
3. Add shallots to Dutch oven and sauté until brown all over, 5 to 8 minutes. Remove with slotted spoon and set aside.
4. Add mushrooms to Dutch oven, with remaining 1/2 tbsp (7 ml) oil, if needed, and sauté until golden, 3 to 4 minutes.
5. Return half of bacon and shallots to Dutch oven. Place chicken pieces on top and sprinkle with remaining bacon and shallots. Tie herbs into bouquet garni and add to Dutch oven with stock and wine. Season generously with pepper.
6. Bring to boil, then reduce heat to very low, cover, and simmer 15 minutes. Add carrots and continue simmering over low heat until chicken is cooked tender and juices run clear when pierced, and carrots are fork-tender.
7. Remove chicken and arrange on warm serving platter. Strain liquid into pot. Add bacon, mushrooms, shallots, and carrots to chicken and keep warm.
8 Put bouquet garni back in strained liquid, add sugar and bring to boil. Boil until sauce is reduced to about 1-1/2 cups (375 ml). Meanwhile, mix cornstarch with a little water until smooth paste forms. Stir into sauce and simmer until thicker. Adjust seasoning to taste and discard bouquet garni. Spoon sauce over chicken and vegetables and sprinkle with parsley.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
The more you fret about where your next dollar is coming from the more likely it is you won't get it. So think positively today.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
At last you are in a position to voice your concerns to partners and loved ones. Put your point of view across, then listen carefully to their reply.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You've wasted too much time and energy on things that don't matter. Now you must cut out everything that is not central to your life's aims.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
The cosmic setup shows you're at a crossroads in your life. Fortunately, you know exactly what you want and exactly how you are going to get it.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
No matter what you're going through, a bit of logical thinking will surely convince you it's no big deal. In fact, by week's end it will have been forgotten.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You won't lack for opinions today, and that's good, but make sure everything you say is based on fact, not hearsay or wishful thinking.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Some things make sense and some things do not and you just have to accept that. You may not like what's going on, but what choice do you have?

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
You know what you want and you have no doubt you'll get it before the end of the day. Others will realize it's not worth taking you on.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Saturn in the career area of your chart means it is time to get serious about your ambitions. You deserve the best, but it won't just drop into your lap.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
You'll have to deal with people whose ideas are very different from yours, but you can still get along. Try to understand where they're coming from.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
You must make sure you project the right image, especially to people in authority. If you want to move up in the world you'll need powerful friends.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Your task today is to let certain people know that you intend to break free of the restrictions they've imposed on you — but don't be nasty about it.

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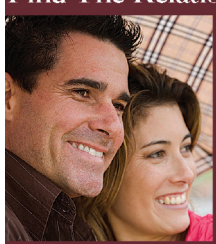
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PREMIER INTRODUCTIONS

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. "Chicago" actor Richard's wharves (1)
2. Loathe an octet's number (1)
3. Above a gadabout or nomad (2)
4. In cop-speak, offender's belches (1)
5. Ponzi schemer Madoff's wheeled cots (2)
6. Versatile @, & or # (2)
7. Nun's foot ailments (2)

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ANSWERS
1. CERES PIERS 2. HATE EIGHT 3. OVER ROVER 4. PEEPS BURPS
5. BERNIES GUNEYS 6. NIMBLE SYMBOL 7. SISTERS BLISTERS

9-15-09

PONTIAC

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HWY: 5.7L/100KM – 50 MPG
CITY: 7.9L/100KM – 36 MPG△

FIVE-STAR SAFETY RATING▽

2009 PONTIAC G3 WAVE GIVES YOU MORE

	2009 G3 WAVE SE 5-DOOR WITH SUNROOF	2009 TOYOTA YARIS LE BASE 5-DOOR MODEL	2009 HONDA FIT DX BASE 5-DOOR MODEL
LOWER CASH PRICE	$13,238	$13,270**	$14,980**
AIR CONDITIONING	✔	X	X
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION	✔	X	X
POWER SUNROOF	✔	X	X
FOG LIGHTS	✔	X	X
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	✔	X	X
CRUISE CONTROL	✔	X	X
ON STAR¥	✔	X	X
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY	5-year/160,000 km	5-year/100,000 km	5-year/100,000 km

WITH More than $4,000◆
in additional features than Toyota or Honda

◆Value of additional standard features based on dealer pricing. Vehicle comparison is based on 2009 G3 Wave SE (2TX48 1SB + MXO +CF5), 2009 Yaris LE 5-Door (KT923M), and 2009 Fit DX (GE8729E). **Vehicle specification and purchase price according to the information available on the manufacturer's website at time of printing.

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AIR CONDITIONING	✔	X	X
AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION	✔	X	X
16" ALUMINUM WHEELS	✔	X	X
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	✔	X	X
POWER DOOR LOCKS	✔	X	X
HP / TORQUE	155 / 150	132 / 128	140 / 128
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY	5-year/160,000 km	5-year/100,000 km	5-year/100,000 km

WITH More than $3,000◆
in additional features than Toyota or Honda

◆Value of additional standard features based on dealer pricing. Vehicle comparison is based on 2009 G5 SE (2AL69/2AL37 1SA + MXO), 2010 Corolla CE (BU42EM) and 2009 Civic DX Sedan (FA1529EX). **Vehicle specification and purchase price according to the information available on the manufacturer's website at time of printing.

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- Cruise Control • Leather Wrapped Steering Wheel
- Leather Wrapped Shifter Knob • Fog Lamps
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CITY: 8.7L/100KM – 33 MPG△

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Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

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Meliá Las Dunas • 4★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Sept. 19 • 1 wk.

$489
Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $222
Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

Samana
Gran Bahia Principe Cayacoa • 4★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Sept. 20 & 27 • 1 wk.

$519
Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $313

Gran Bahia Principe El Portillo • 4 1/2★
All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
Sept. 20 & 27 • 1 wk.

$539
Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $313

New York
Holiday Inn Midtown - 57th Street • 3★
Standard rm.
Oct. 1, 11 & 14 • 2 nts.

$649
Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $125

Las Vegas
Excalibur Hotel & Casino • 3 1/2★
Hotel rm.
Oct. 19 • 3 nts.

$459
Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $190

Liberia, Costa Rica
Occidental Grand Papagayo • 4 1/2★
All-Inclusive • Deluxe rm.
Nov. 7, 14, 21 & 28 • 1 wk.

$1199
Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $204
Departure tax: 26USD cash, paid locally

DEAL to EUROPE

London
Royal National Hotel London • 3★
Breakfast • Standard rm.
Nov. 11, 13, 18 & 19 • 4 nts.

$597
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